BLOOD SHOT®
SALVATION
THE BOOK OF THE DEAD
VALIANT
Jeff Lemire • Ray Fawkes • Renato Guedes

BLOODSHOT SALVATION

THE BOOK OF THE DEAD

JEFF LEMIRE | RAY FAWKES | RENATO GUEDES | SIMON BOWLAND

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Writers: Ray Fawkes with Jeff Lemire
Artist: Renato Guedes
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Giuseppe Camuncoli
Andrew Dalhouse
Shane Davis
Gabe Eltaeb
Renato Guedes
Trevor Hairsine
David Lafuente
Bob Layton
Jim Mahfood
Brian Reber
Kenneth Rocafort
Gerardo Zaffino

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BLOOD SHOT

Jeff Lemire
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Simon Bowland

VALIANT

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BLOODSHOT®

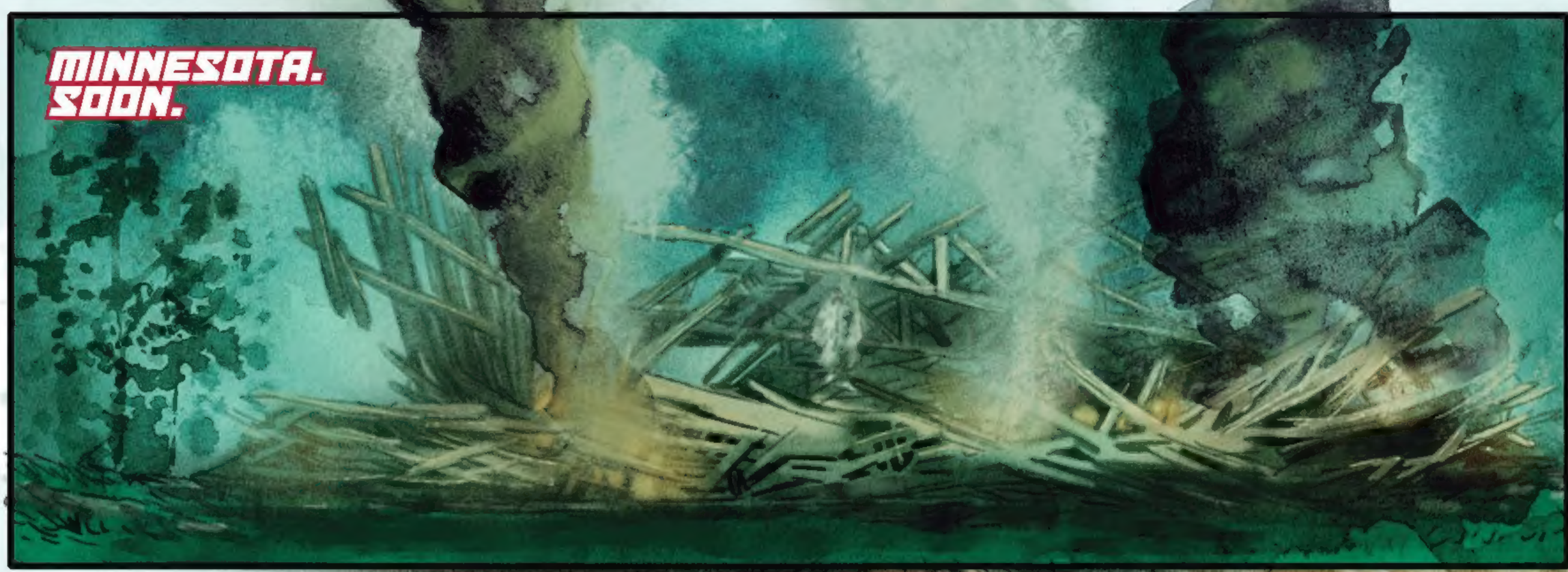
SALVATION

Bloodshot is the perfect living weapon. Injected with billions of microscopic nanites that give him full control of his physiology, Bloodshot has enhanced strength, speed, can repair any injury, and is able to control technology with a thought.

After leaving his past behind him, Bloodshot has settled down to a life as Ray Garrison with his love, Magic. Together, with their newborn daughter, Jessie, they lived in peace. All was well, until Daddy -- Magic's insane, cult-leading father -- began calling their home.

Unable to leave well enough alone, Bloodshot went to Ohio to confront Daddy. However, during his confrontation, Bloodshot's nanites were shut off remotely by the paramilitary organization Omen. Despite this, with help from Ninjak, Bloodshot was able to kill Daddy, silencing him once and for all.

However, Ninjak has informed Bloodshot that something far worse than Daddy is coming...



OKAY... WHAT THE HELL JUST HAPPENED? DID *YOU* DO THIS, VOODOO GIRL?

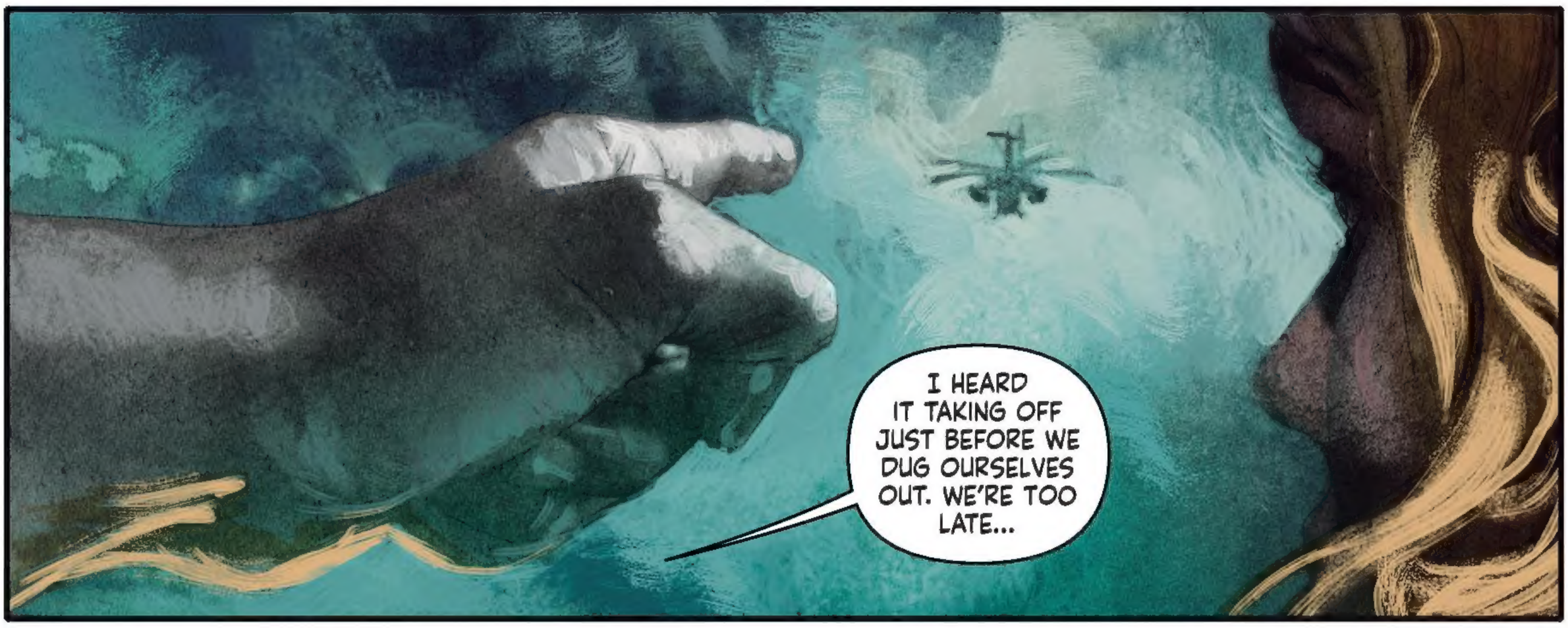
ME?! I SAVED YOUR ASS, MAN. SOMEONE HIT US WITH A ROCKET OR A BOMB OR SOME @#%* LIKE THAT.

IF I DIDN'T THROW UP A PROTECTIVE SPELL AT THE LAST MINUTE ALL OF US WOULD BE TOAST.

JESSIE?!

JESSIE!

SHE'S GONE.


I HEARD IT TAKING OFF JUST BEFORE WE DUG OURSELVES OUT. WE'RE TOO LATE...

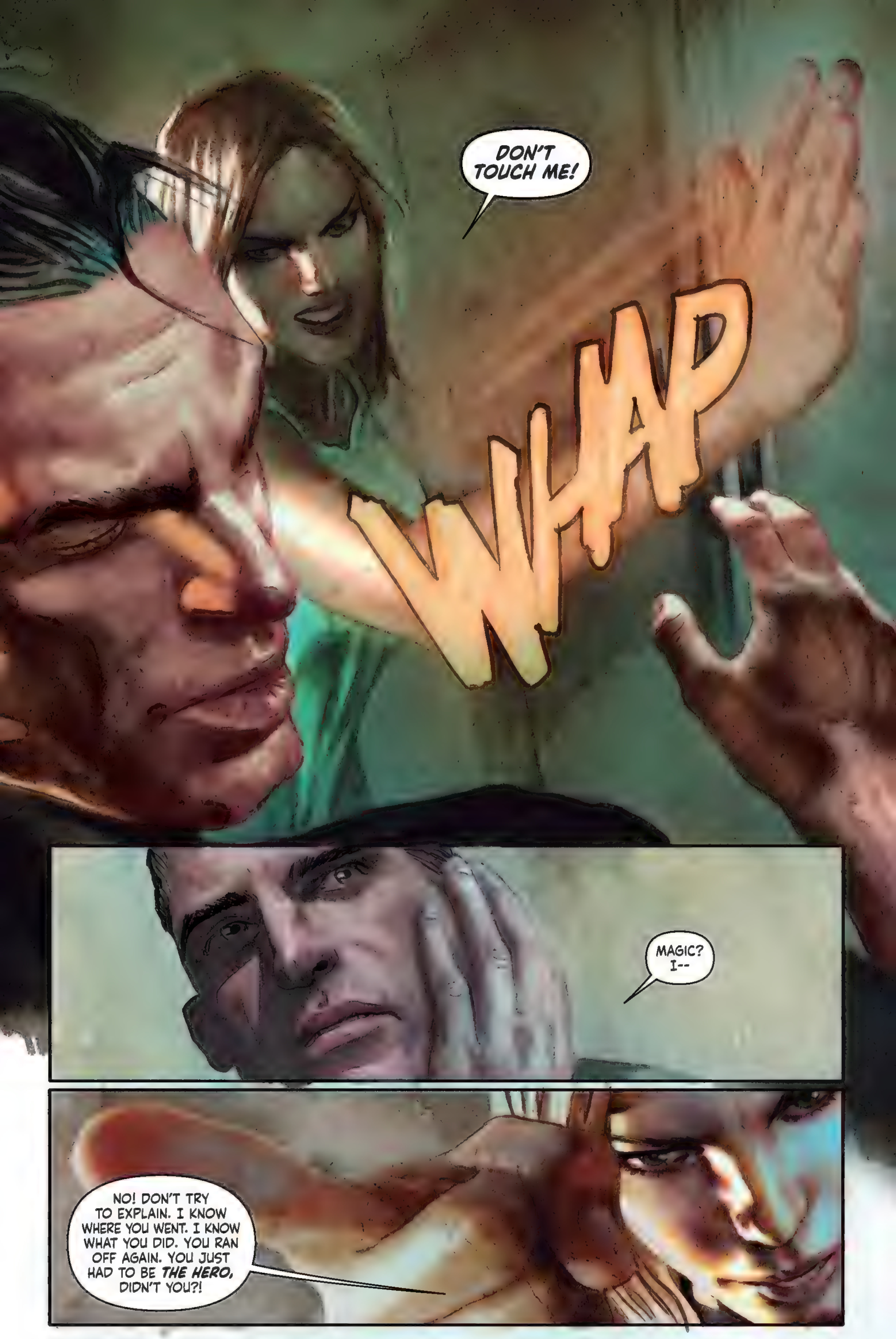
"...OMEN HAS HER NOW."
THERE THERE, GIRLIE. UNCLE RAMPAGE IS HERE. EVERYTHING IS GOING TO BE OKAY NOW.
NO NEED TO BE SCARED ANYMORE.
YOU AND ME...WE'RE GONNA BE A FAMILY NOW.

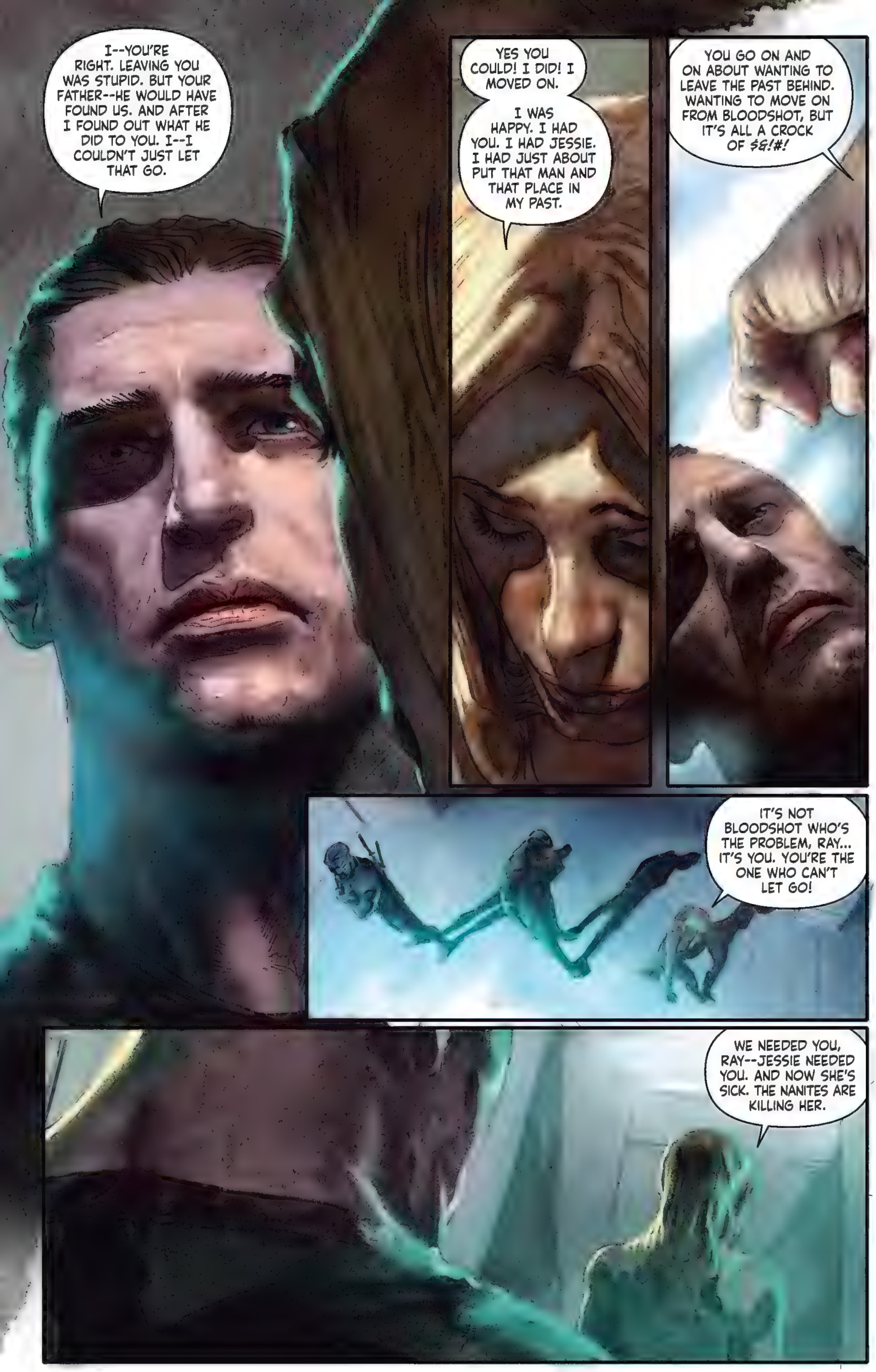
G.A.T.E. HEADQUARTERS. NOW.

MAGIC!

I'M SO SORRY, MAGIC.

NINJAK TOLD ME EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED. I--I NEVER WOULD HAVE LEFT IF I'D KNOWN.


DON'T TOUCH ME!
WHAP
MAGIC? I--
NO! DON'T TRY TO EXPLAIN. I KNOW WHERE YOU WENT. I KNOW WHAT YOU DID. YOU RAN OFF AGAIN. YOU JUST HAD TO BE THE HERO, DIDN'T YOU?!


I--YOU'RE RIGHT. LEAVING YOU WAS STUPID. BUT YOUR FATHER--HE WOULD HAVE FOUND US. AND AFTER I FOUND OUT WHAT HE DID TO YOU. I--I COULDN'T JUST LET THAT GO.
YES YOU COULD! I DID! I MOVED ON.
I WAS HAPPY. I HAD YOU. I HAD JESSIE. I HAD JUST ABOUT PUT THAT MAN AND THAT PLACE IN MY PAST.
YOU GO ON AND ON ABOUT WANTING TO LEAVE THE PAST BEHIND. WANTING TO MOVE ON FROM BLOODSHOT, BUT IT'S ALL A CROCK OF $&!#!
IT'S NOT BLOODSHOT WHO'S THE PROBLEM, RAY... IT'S YOU. YOU'RE THE ONE WHO CAN'T LET GO!
WE NEEDED YOU, RAY--JESSIE NEEDED YOU. AND NOW SHE'S SICK. THE NANITES ARE KILLING HER.

I--I'M SORRY, MAGIC.
I'M HERE NOW.
I'LL NEVER LEAVE EITHER OF YOU AGAIN.
HOW IS SHE?
I'M AFRAID, SHE IS WORSE. WE'VE TRIED EVERYTHING.
THAT'S BULL! THERE HAS TO BE SOMETHING YOU CAN DO! THERE HAS TO BE SOME WAY TO SAVE HER!
WE ARE DEALING WITH SOMETHING UNPRECEDENTED HERE. I'M AFRAID IT IS BEYOND US. WE HAVE TRIED ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING WE POSSIBLY CAN TO SAVE HER.
SHE IS GOING TO DIE.

I--I DID THIS.

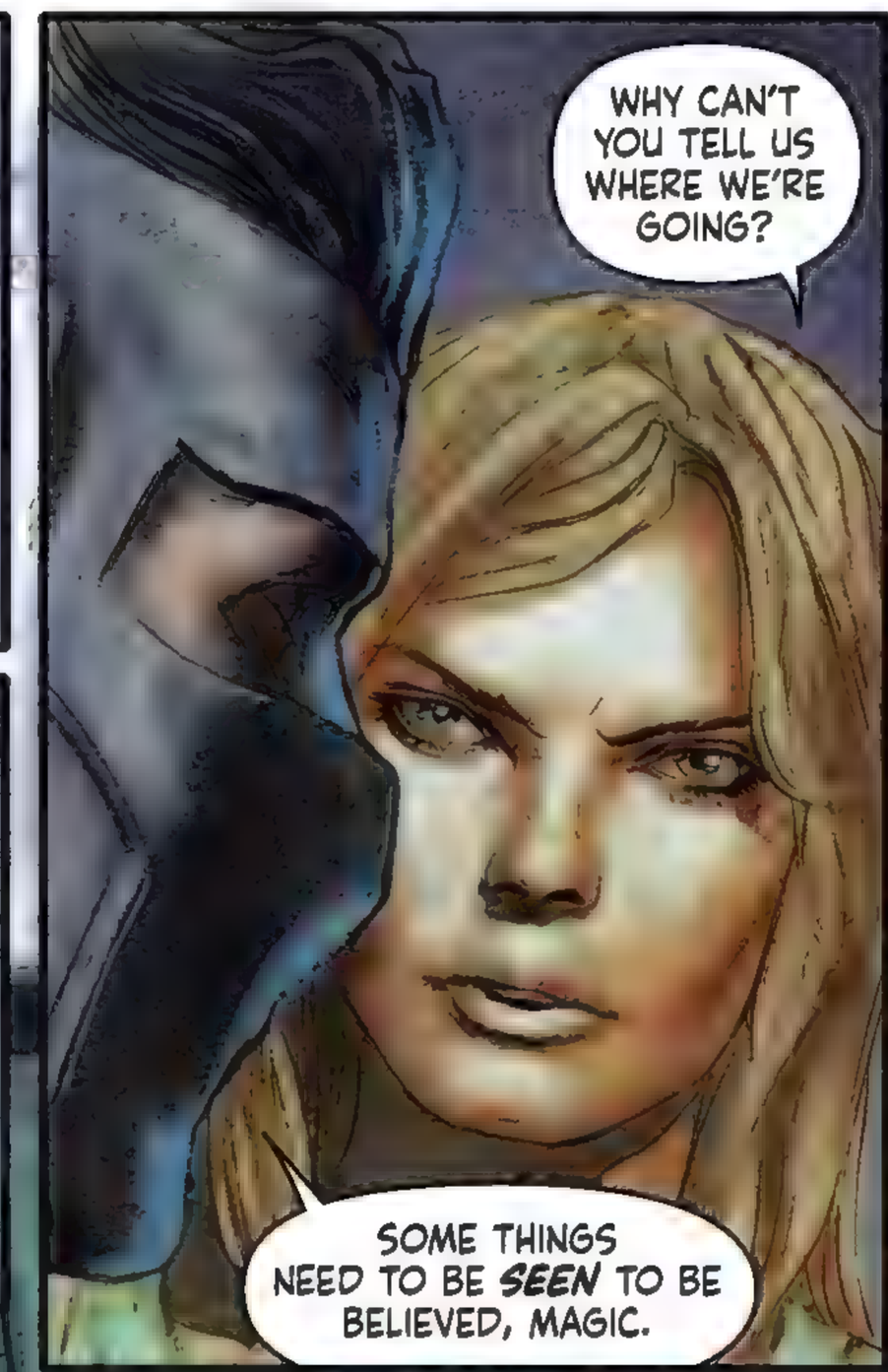
DON'T SAY THAT.
NO, IT'S TRUE. IT WAS ME, THE NANITES. THEY POISONED HER. THIS IS MY FAULT.

THINKING LIKE THAT WON'T HELP ANYONE, MR. GARRISON. YOU *CREATED* HER. YOU GAVE HER LIFE TO BEGIN WITH. SHE IS THE FIRST OF HER KIND. A MIRACLE.
BUT NOW...NOW WE ARE GOING TO NEED *ANOTHER MIRACLE* TO SAVE HER.

I--I MAY KNOW A PLACE WHERE MIRACLES *CAN* HAPPEN.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, NINJAK?
PLEASE, IF YOU KNOW SOME WAY... ANY WAY...
I DON'T KNOW IF IT WILL HELP HER OR MAKE IT WORSE.
I DON'T KNOW IF IT WILL DO ANYTHING AT ALL. BUT--
QUIT TALKING IN CIRCLES! MY LITTLE GIRL IS DYING IN THERE!
AHEM--YES. AND THAT IS THE ONLY REASON I HAVEN'T REMOVED BOTH OF YOUR HANDS ALREADY.
I'M SORRY. IT'S JUST--I'M DESPERATE HERE.
I KNOW. AND THIS PLACE I CAN SHOW YOU...
...MAKE NO MISTAKE, RAY, TAKING JESSIE THERE...
...IT WOULD BE THE MOST DESPERATE MEASURE YOU COULD TAKE.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
I'LL DO ANYTHING, RAY. ANYTHING. I CAN'T LOSE HER.
OH, AND IT'S DANGEROUS.
VERY DANGEROUS.
WELL THEN... I BETTER GET MY NANITES TURNED BACK ON.

...I STILL DON'T KNOW HOW ALL YOUR NANITES WENT DORMANT LIKE THAT, BLOODSHOT. AS FAR AS WE KNEW, ONLY WE HAVE THE TECHNOLOGY TO CONTROL THEM.
WELL, I GUESS YOU WERE WRONG, WEREN'T YOU, CAPSHAW? ANYWAY, RIGHT NOW ALL I WANT TO KNOW IS IF YOU CAN TURN THEM BACK ON?
ARF!
THIS SHOULD DO IT. HOLD ON...
THERE. ALL BETTER.
YEAH. JUST LIKE NEW.
ARF! ARF!



I MUST STATE AGAIN FOR THE RECORD, COLONEL CAPSHAW, I CANNOT GIVE MY BLESSING TO THIS IDEA.

AND WILL YOU ALSO STATE FOR THE RECORD THAT YOU HAVE TRIED EVERY POSSIBLE TREATMENT TO SAVE THE GIRL?

...

YES.

GREAT, THEN LET ME SAY THAT YOUR CONCERNS ARE OFFICIALLY NOTED.

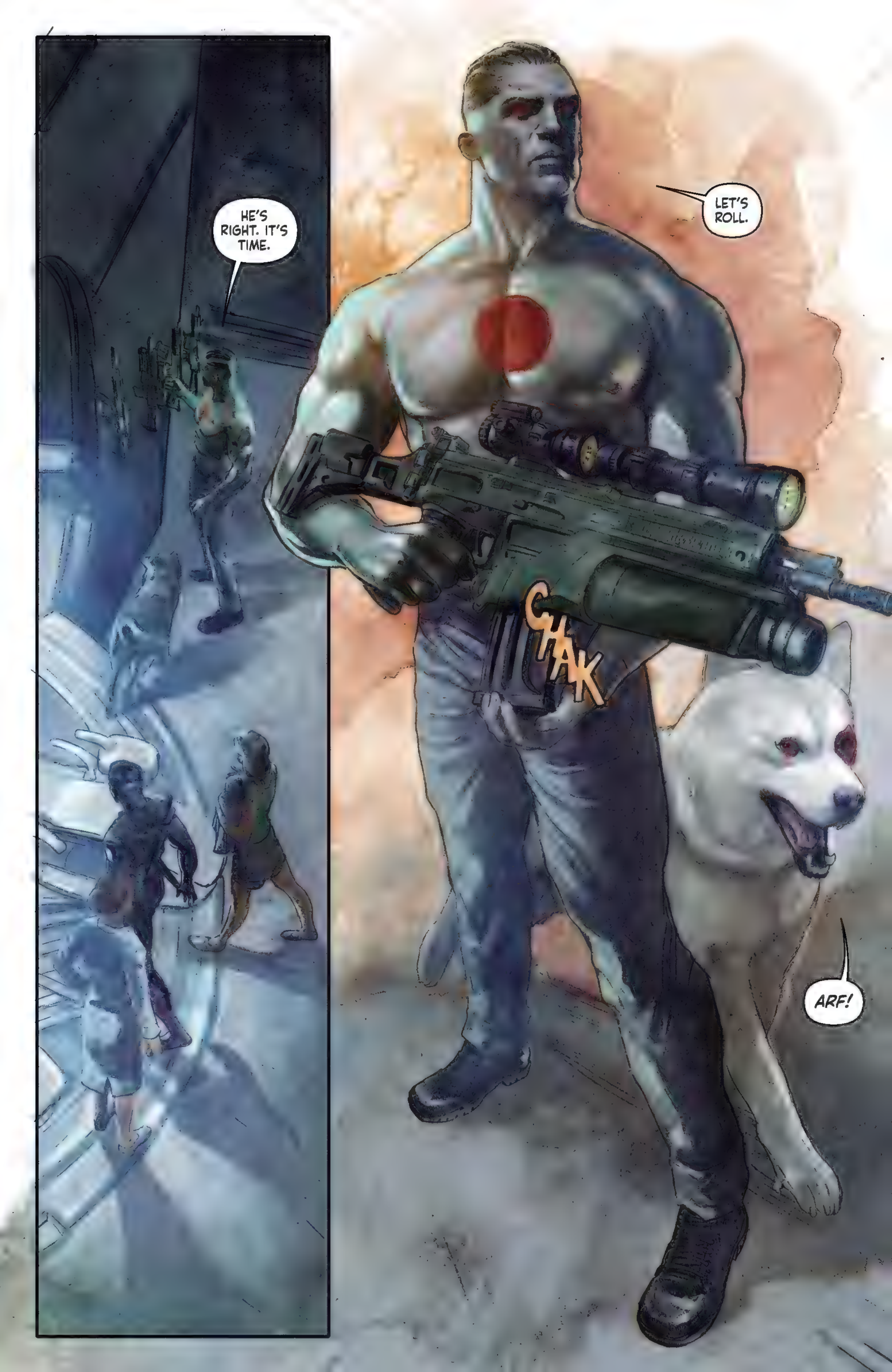
YOU ARE DISMISSED.

CAN I-- CAN I HOLD HER?
WELL-- I GUESS AT THIS POINT IT CAN'T HURT HER ANY MORE.

SHE'S SO WEAK, RAY.
WE'RE GOING TO FIX HER, MAGIC. THIS IS GOING TO WORK.

IF WE ARE GOING TO DO ANYTHING WE HAD BETTER HURRY. WE NEED TO GET TO ***NEW ORLEANS*** BEFORE SUNRISE, AND SHE IS LOOKING WEAKER ALL THE TIME.

BEFORE SUNRISE?
THIS PLACE I'M TAKING YOU... IT'S EASIER TO FIND AT NIGHT.


HE'S RIGHT. IT'S TIME.
LET'S ROLL.
CHAK
ARF!

MAYBE MAGIC WAS RIGHT, MAYBE IT REALLY WAS ME WHO COULDN'T LET BLOODSHOT GO AND NOT THE OTHER WAY AROUND.
I FELT A LOT OF DIFFERENT THINGS AS WE FLEW OUT TOGETHER THAT NIGHT. MOSTLY I WAS WORRIED ABOUT JESSIE, OF COURSE, BUT I'D BE LYING IF I SAID THERE WASN'T SOMETHING ELSE TOO...
...I HAVE TO ADMIT THAT BEING BLOODSHOT AGAIN INSTEAD OF JUST RAY GARRISON...WELL IT MADE ME FEEL LIKE I HAD PURPOSE AGAIN.
AS RAY I FELT HELPLESS. AS BLOODSHOT I FELT LIKE MAYBE I REALLY COULD SAVE MY LITTLE GIRL.
LOOKING BACK NOW, AT ALL THAT HAPPENED AFTER THAT NIGHT...ALL I SEE IS HOW ARROGANT AND STUPID I WAS.
HOW MUCH FARTHER?
I--I'M NOT COMPLETELY CERTAIN.
WE HAVE CERTAIN MEANS OF SENDING A MESSAGE TO HIM. I JUST HOPE HE GOT IT.

I GOT IT.
SHADOWMAN?!
ARK! ARK!

HELLO, BLOODSHOT. I AM VERY SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR DAUGHTER.
CAN YOU HELP HER?
I CAN'T DO ANYTHING.
BUT I CAN TAKE YOU TO A PLACE BEYOND DEATH. A PLACE WHERE...CERTAIN BARGAINS CAN BE STRUCK IF YOU ARE WILLING.
I'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES. ANYTHING.
SKRAK
I GUESS YOU'LL SOON FIND OUT IF THAT'S TRUE OR NOT.
I CAN FERRY YOU THERE...THROUGH THE DEADSIDE. BUT THEN YOU WILL BE ON YOUR OWN.

SHE'S GETTING COLD, RAY. IF WE ARE GOING TO DO THIS, LET'S GO.
...
NINJAK.
I'M SORRY, MAGIC.
HEY! WHAT ARE YOU--?!
LET GO OF ME!
I CAN'T LET YOU COME AND I KNOW YOU'LL NEVER WILLINGLY STAY. IT'S TOO DANGEROUS.

YOU BASTARD! DON'T DO THIS! YOU CAN'T TAKE MY BABY!

I--I'M SORRY, MAGIC. I LOVE YOU. NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS. I WILL ALWAYS LOVE YOU.

BUT I HAVE TO SAVE OUR BABY.

RAY, DON'T!

DON'T LEAVE ME HERE ALONE!

GOODBYE, MAGIC.

NO!

RIGHT AWAY I KNEW SOMETHING WAS WRONG.
I MEAN, OF COURSE EVERYTHING WAS WRONG HERE. IT WAS THE DEADSIDE. HOW COULD IT NOT BE?
ARRRK!
BUT I MEAN THERE WAS SOMETHING WRONG WITH ME. THE SECOND WE CROSSED OVER I FELT IT DEEP DOWN IN EVERY CELL IN MY BODY. THE NANITES-- IT WAS THE NANITES.
THERE WAS SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE NANITES!
I TRIED TO FOCUS ON JESSIE IN MY ARMS, I TRIED JUST TO HOLD ON AND NOT LET GO OF HER. BUT IT WAS SO HARD TO CONCENTRATE...
AND BY THE TIME I REALIZED WHAT WAS HAPPENING IT WAS TOO LATE. EVERYTHING JUST WENT BLACK...

I HAD BROUGHT MY BABY DAUGHTER TO HELL...AND I WAS *BLIND.*

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NOTHING.

NOTHING
BUT BLACK.

I HAVE TRAVELLED
TO THE DEADSIDE WITH
MY BABY IN MY ARMS, BUT
SOMETHING IS WRONG. MY
NANITES ARE ALL %#@&ED
UP HERE. I'M BLIND.

I HAVE NO IDEA
WHERE I AM OR WHAT'S
AROUND ME. I CAN STILL
FEEL JESSIE CRADLED IN
MY ARMS.

SHE'S--SHE'S
BREATHING. IT'S
FAINT, BUT I CAN
FEEL HER LITTLE
BREATH.

IT'S THE
WARMEST
THING HERE.

THEN I HEAR SOMETHING MOVING BEHIND ME.

SOMETHING COMING THIS WAY.

HOUND?

HOUND? THAT YOU, BOY?

I REACH FOR MY PISTOL, KEEPING ONE ARM TIGHT AROUND JESSIE.

I CAN'T SEE IT, BUT I CAN HEAR IT GETTING CLOSER.

I AIM, MY FINGER FINDS THE TRIGGER.

ARK! ARK!

OH THANK GOD.

I RELAX, LOWER THE GUN. I FEEL HOUND AT MY LEGS NOW, PANTING.

GOOD BOY.

ARK!

LISTEN TO ME, BOY. I-I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING.

I AM GOING TO NEED YOU TO LEAD THE WAY. FIND SOMEWHERE SAFE FOR ME TO TRY AND GET MY BEARINGS, SEE IF THIS PASSES.

YOU UNDERSTAND, BOY?

ARK!

I DECIDE TO TAKE THAT AS A YES. I HEAR HIM WALK OFF AHEAD AND I FOLLOW, STAYING CLOSE.

BLOODHOUND... MY OWN SEEING EYE DOG.

THE GROUND
FEELS STRANGE.

ITS HARD
AND COLD. NOT LIKE
EARTH OR PAVEMENT...
SOMETHING ELSE.

I REACH DOWN
AND TOUCH IT AND
THEN I KNOW EXACTLY
WHAT IT IS.

BONE.

THE GROUND
IS ALL BONE.

WE WALK FOR WHAT SEEMS LIKE FOREVER. JESSIE WAKES A COUPLE OF TIMES BUT SHE DOESN'T CRY. AND THAT MAKES ME MORE WORRIED THAN ANYTHING.

THEN THE AIR SHIFTS. GETS THICKER.

I HEAR MY FOOTSTEPS BOUNCING OFF WALLS.

A TUNNEL. WE ARE IN SOME KIND OF TUNNEL.

HOUND? WHERE YOU TAKING US, BOY?

ARK! ARK!

THEN I HEAR SOMETHING ELSE.

SLURRCH

GRRRRRRRR.

HOUND?!

THE WALLS. THE WALLS ARE MOVING!

I FEEL SOMETHING MOVE ACROSS MY FEET AND LEGS. IT'S SHARP AND WET.

HOUND IS GOING CRAZY. HE--HE HAS SOMETHING IN HIS JAWS.

JESSIE STIRS IN MY ARMS. SOMETHING IS CLIMBING UP MY LEGS! CLIMBING TOWARDS HER!

I GRAB MY PISTOL AND AIM AT MY OWN LEGS.

%@(# IT. I'LL HEAL.

BLAM BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

ARK!
ARK!

BLAM

WAAAAA!

DAMN. WE WOKE HER UP.

SSHH...IT'S OKAY, BABY. IT'S OKAY, JESSIE. DADDY'S HERE. SSSHH.

ARK!

ARK!

BUT HOUND IS BEGGING, BARKING. HE WANTS US TO ***MOVE.*** SO I DO. I WRAP HER TIGHT IN MY ARMS AND I RUN.

I RUN AND I JUST KEEP RUNNING.

UNTIL...

SPLASH
WATER. I-I'M SINKING DOWN. UNDERWATER.
AND THEN IT HAPPENS.
SHE SLIPS FROM MY ARMS.
I--I'VE LOST JESSIE.

DESPERATELY I DIVE DOWN, AND FLAIL MY ARMS, SEARCHING FRANTICALLY, TRYING TO FIND HER.

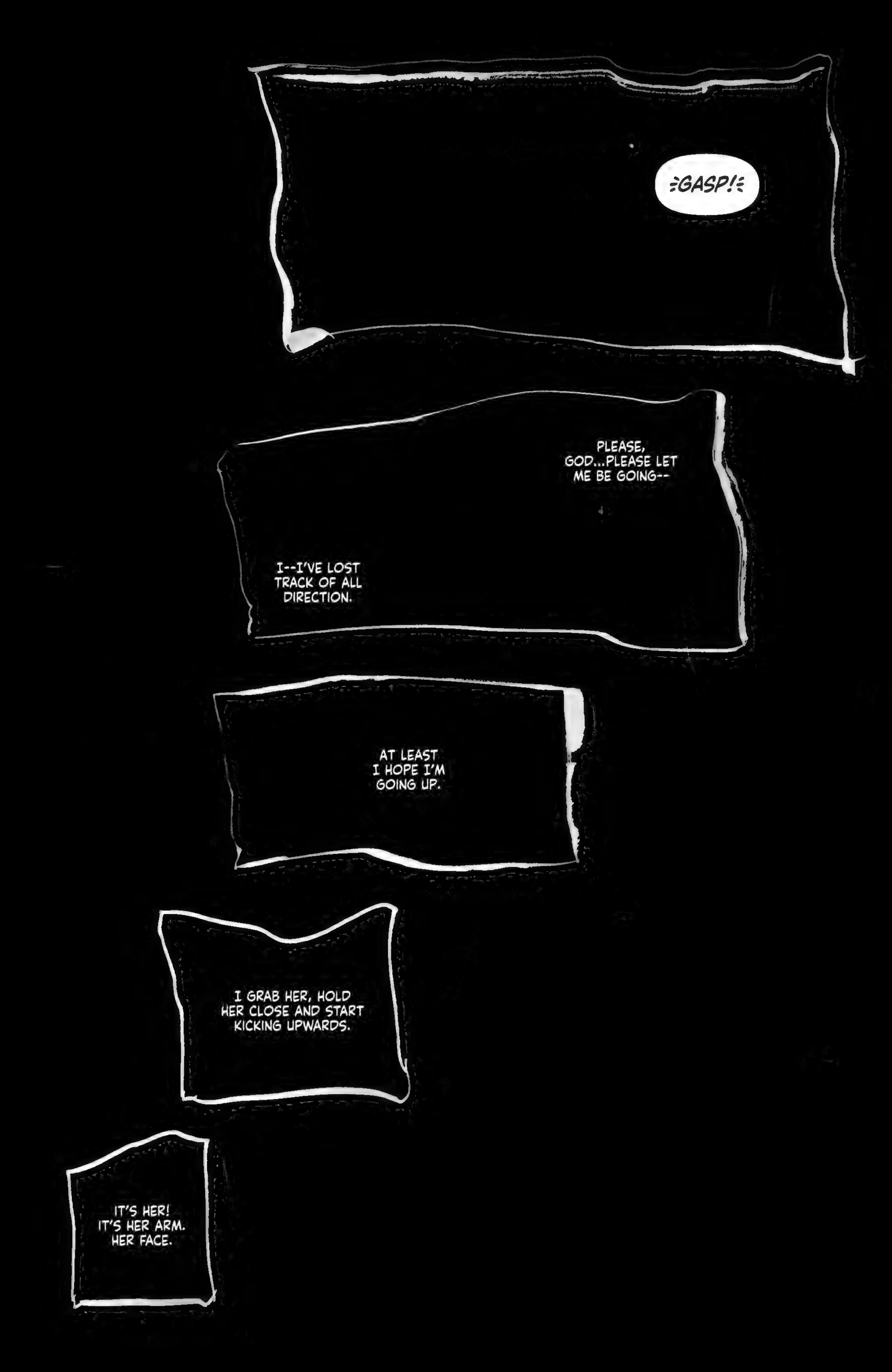
BUT IT'S USELESS, I CAN'T EVEN FIND THE BOTTOM.

I WANT TO SCREAM, BUT MY LUNGS ARE FULL.

THEN MY FINGERS GRAZE SOMETHING. SOMETHING SOFT.

JESSIE?

JESSIE?!


:GASP!:
PLEASE, GOD...PLEASE LET ME BE GOING--
I--I'VE LOST TRACK OF ALL DIRECTION.
AT LEAST I HOPE I'M GOING UP.
I GRAB HER, HOLD HER CLOSE AND START KICKING UPWARDS.
IT'S HER! IT'S HER ARM. HER FACE.

AIR.

I DID IT.

ARK!

I CAN HEAR HOUND BUT IT'S ECHOING ON THE SURFACE OF THE WATER *(IS THIS WATER?!)* AND HIS DIRECTION IS HARD TO NAIL DOWN.

I MAKE MY BEST GUESS AND START SWIMMING.

I FEEL THE WATER GET SHALLOW AND BEFORE I KNOW IT I'M ON THE SHORE. LYING IN THE SAND WITH HOUND LICKING MY FACE.

I FEEL JESSIE'S LITTLE BODY MOVING UP AND DOWN AS SHE BREATHES.

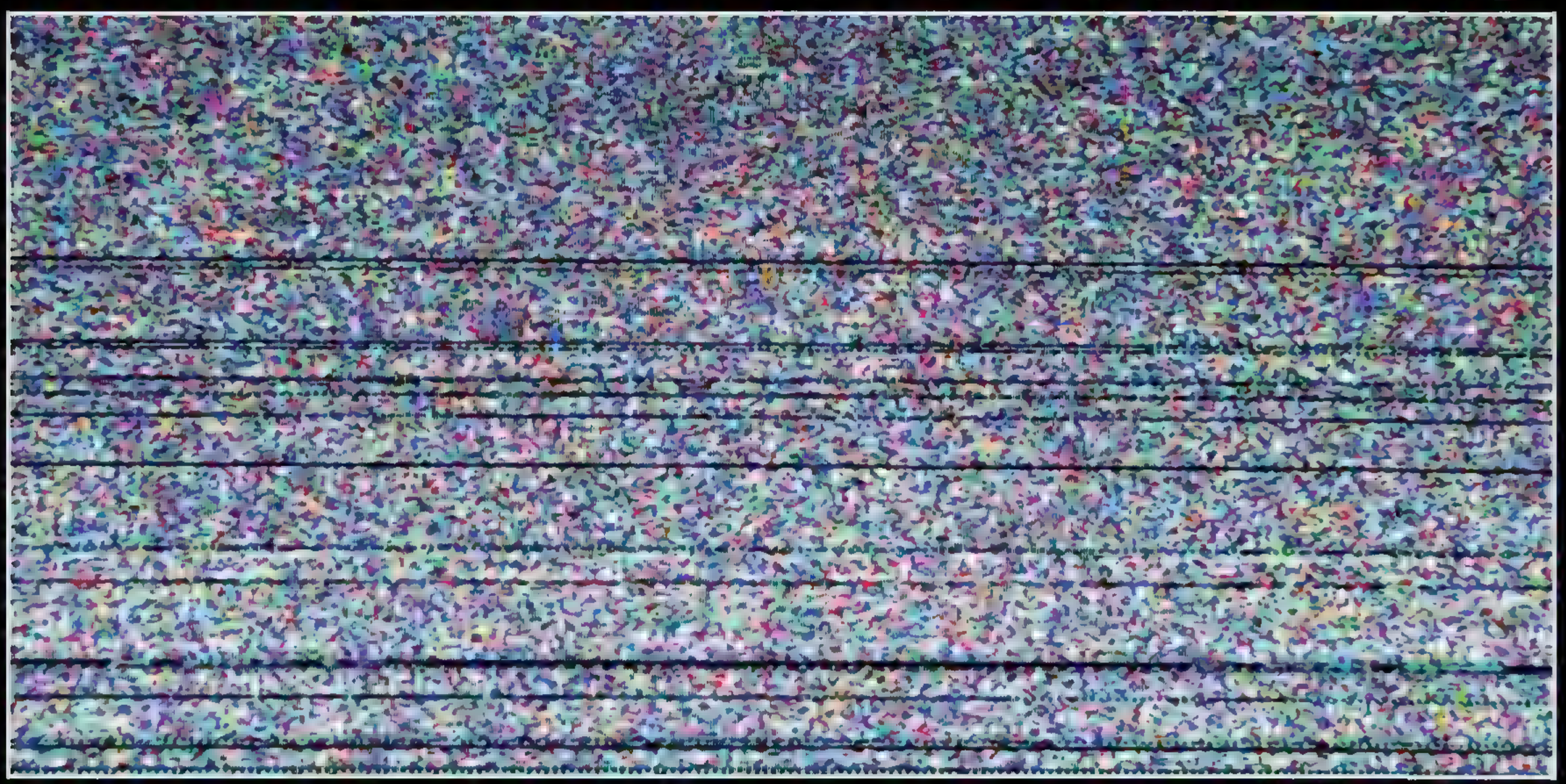
THANK YOU.

THANK YOU.

THEN THERE'S A NEW SOUND. LIKE A WHIP CRACKING.
NO... NOT A WHIP. LEATHER.
WINGS.
GIANT WINGS FLAPPING ABOVE!

THEN WHATEVER IT IS BREATHES AND I FEEL AN EXPLOSION OF HEAT HIT NEARBY!
FIRE. IT'S BREATHING FIRE ON US!
I AIM AT THE SKY AND FIRE WILDLY.
ARK! ARK!
BLAM BLAM BLAM
I DOUBT IT WILL DO ANY GOOD, BUT THERE'S NOTHING ELSE I CAN DO.
THEN I GET UP AND HUDDLING JESSIE TO ME, PROTECTING HER FROM THE FLAMES ALL AROUND, I RUN.

I FEEL HOUND RUNNING BESIDE ME AND THEN--



WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT I--I SAW SOMETHING!

MAYBE MY SIGHT IS COMING BACK! MAYBE THE NANITES ARE FIXING THEMSELVES AND--

AND THEN I'M FALLING.

LIKE I RAN OFF A CLIFF. FREEFALLING AND IT'S COLD, COLDER THAN BEFORE. I FEEL HOUND TUMBLE DOWN BESIDE ME.

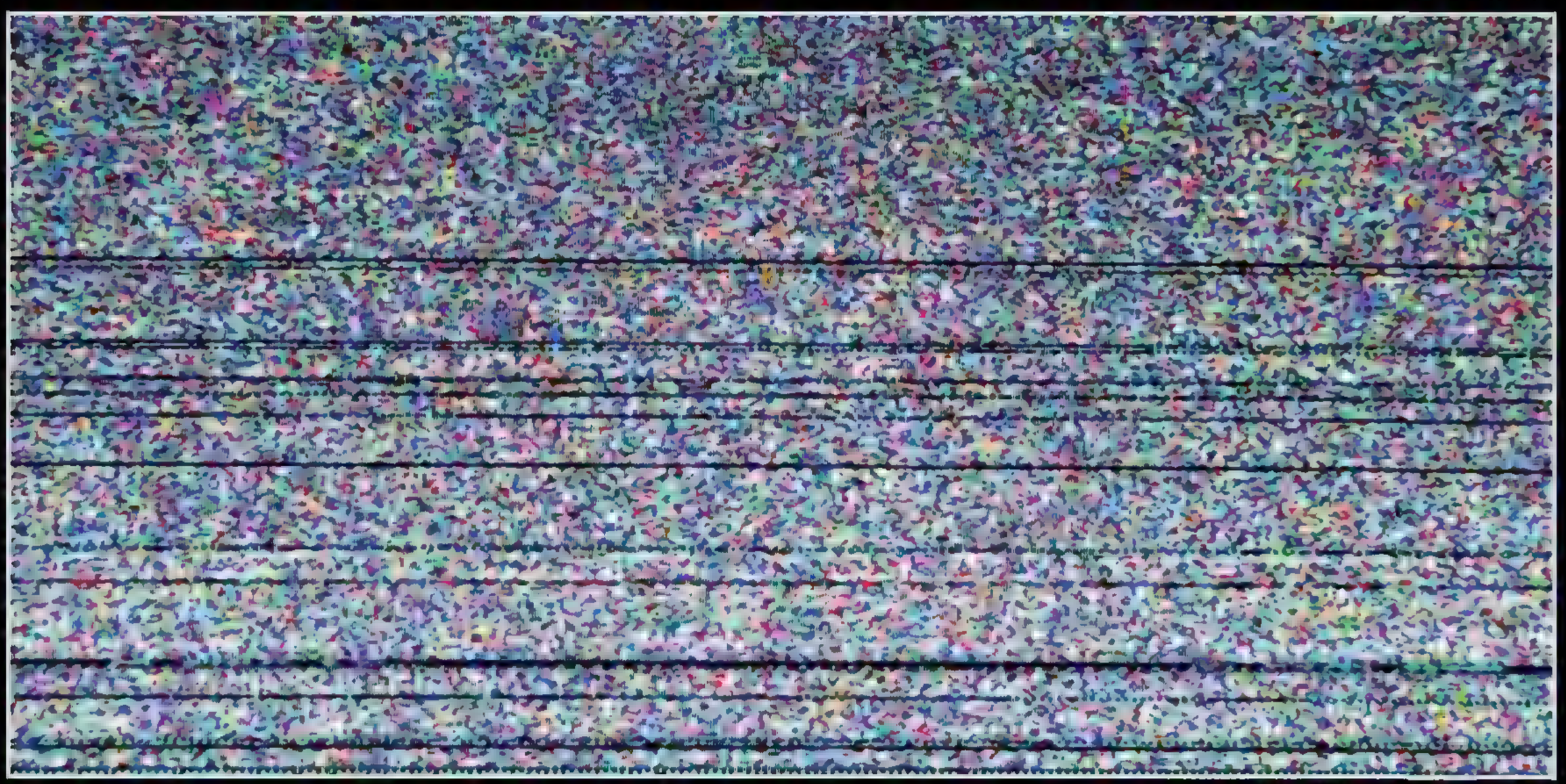
I'M SO CAUGHT OFF GUARD I ALMOST FORGET TO PROTECT JESSIE FROM THE FALL.

I TWIST AND CRADLE HER AND GET READY FOR--

UNGH!

I HIT THE GROUND HARD, BUT TAKE THE IMPACT ON MY BACK.

I HAVE NO CHOICE EXCEPT TO LAY THERE WITH JESSIE ON MY CHEST AS THE NANITES DO THEIR THING AND START TO REPAIR MY SPINE.



THERE! I SAW IT AGAIN. PLEASE **PLEASE!**

ARK!

COME ON!

ARK!

COME ON!

ARK!

I FEEL IT. MY BODY GETTING WARMER, THE NANITES ARE WORKING. THEY ARE WORKING!

ARK!

OH #%&*.
ARK!

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NEW ORLEANS.

SON OF A BITCH!

I'M SORRY, MAGIC. RAY ASKED ME TO STOP YOU FROM FOLLOWING THEM.

THAT IS *MY* BABY! YOU HAD NO RIGHT, NINJAK! *HE* HAD NO RIGHT!

NOW WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

WHAT DOES IT *LOOK* LIKE? I'M WAITING FOR THEM.

WHAT'S SAY WE WAIT IN THE CHOPPER. IT'S WARM AND THEY MAY BE GONE A LONG TIME.

I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE.

SIGH I'LL GET US SOME TEA.

THE DEADSIDE.

OH, &*@% ME.

ARK! ARK!

THEY COME AT US FROM ALL SIDES. DEMONS...THAT'S THE ONLY WORD FOR THEM, DEMONS. BUT THESE LIVING NIGHTMARES AREN'T WHAT'S SCARING ME THE MOST RIGHT NOW...

WHAT'S SCARING ME IS THAT JESSIE DOESN'T WAKE UP. SHE DOESN'T EVEN STIR. SHE JUST LAYS LIMP IN MY ARM THE WHOLE TIME.

CHK CHK CHK

THAT AND THE FACT THAT MY $#% GUN JUST JAMMED!

HSSSSS!

GRARRR!

GOOD BOY.
ARK!
THERE ARE MORE COMING. I CAN ALREADY HEAR THEM MOVING OUT THERE.
LIKE INSECTS CRAWLING OVER ONE ANOTHER.
SHE STILL HAS A PULSE. IT'S FAINT, BUT SHE IS ALIVE.
HERE THEY COME, BOY. YOU READY FOR MORE?
ARK!
I'LL TAKE THAT AS A YES.

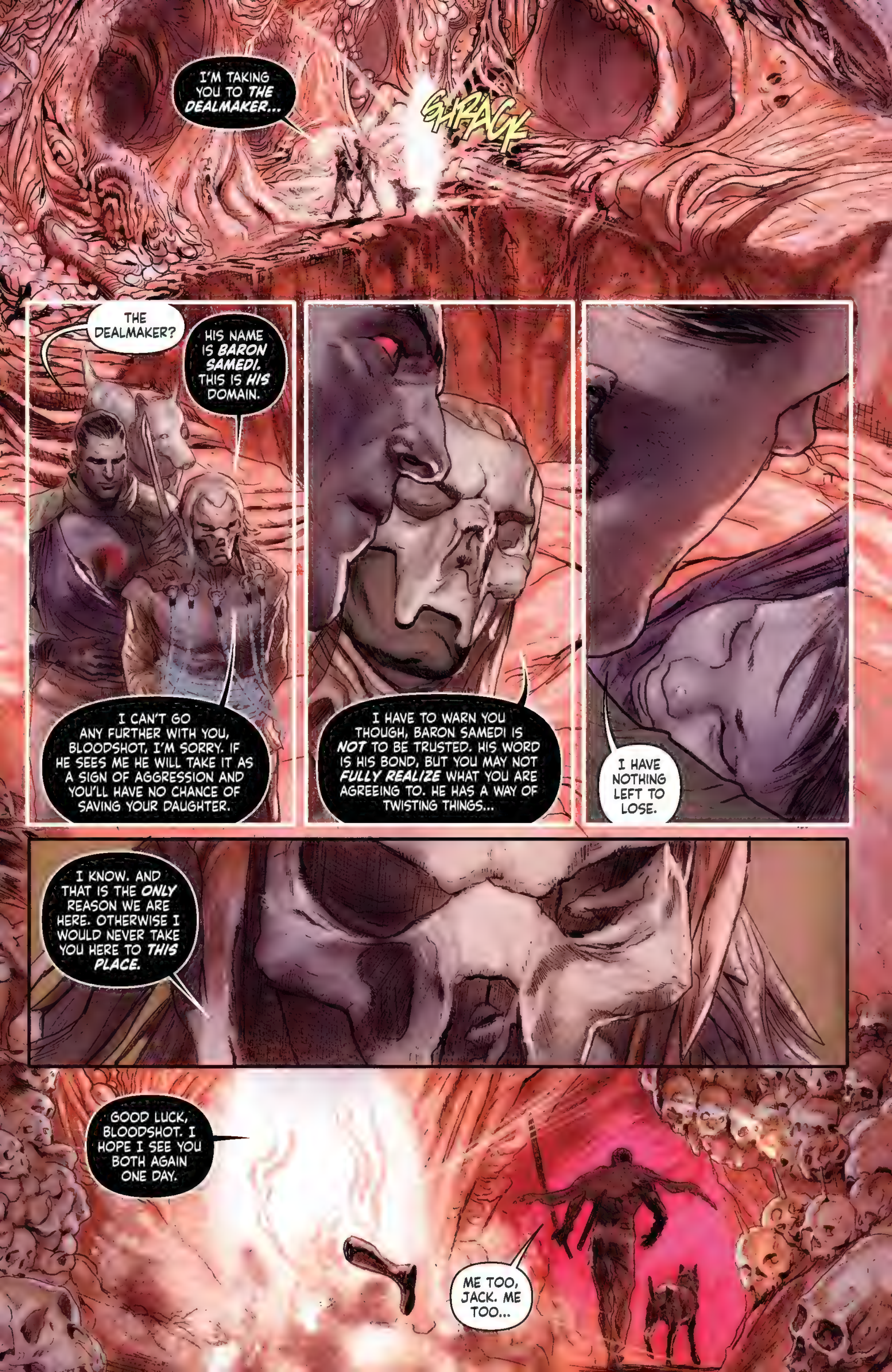
I HAVE NO SENSE OF DIRECTION HERE. NO IDEA WHERE I AM SUPPOSED TO GO, OR WHAT I AM SUPPOSED TO DO TO SAVE JESSIE.
ALL I KNOW IS I NEED TO FIGHT AND I NEED TO *SURVIVE* SO THAT SHE CAN.
BUT THERE ARE TOO MANY OF THEM. THEY KEEP COMING LIKE WAVES.
AN OCEAN OF BAD DREAMS AND I HAVE NO HOPE OF FIGHTING THEM ALL.
WHAT I NEED NOW IS A MIRACLE...

AND I GET ONE... BUT I'M PRETTY DAMN SURE HE WASN'T SENT FROM ABOVE.

BLOODSHOT, HURRY! THIS WAY! THERE WILL BE MORE OF THEM SOON.

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

ARK!


I'M TAKING YOU TO *THE DEALMAKER*...
SHRACK
THE DEALMAKER?
HIS NAME IS *BARON SAMEDI*. THIS IS *HIS* DOMAIN.
I CAN'T GO ANY FURTHER WITH YOU, BLOODSHOT, I'M SORRY. IF HE SEES ME HE WILL TAKE IT AS A SIGN OF AGGRESSION AND YOU'LL HAVE NO CHANCE OF SAVING YOUR DAUGHTER.
I HAVE TO WARN YOU THOUGH, BARON SAMEDI IS *NOT* TO BE TRUSTED. HIS WORD IS HIS BOND, BUT YOU MAY NOT *FULLY REALIZE* WHAT YOU ARE AGREEING TO. HE HAS A WAY OF TWISTING THINGS...
I HAVE NOTHING LEFT TO LOSE.
I KNOW. AND THAT IS THE *ONLY* REASON WE ARE HERE. OTHERWISE I WOULD NEVER TAKE YOU HERE TO *THIS PLACE*.
GOOD LUCK, BLOODSHOT. I HOPE I SEE YOU BOTH AGAIN ONE DAY.
ME TOO, JACK. ME TOO...

TOP SECRET OMEN BUNKER. LOCATION: CLASSIFIED.
--MIGHT BE BEST TO GO IN WITH AN ARMED ESCORT, SIR.
I'M FINE ON MY OWN.
BUT SIR, HE'S STILL VERY UNSTABLE AND--
I SAID, I AM FINE ON MY OWN.
DANNY?
PETE.

ARE YOU OKAY?
AM I OKAY?
LOOK AT ME. LOOK WHAT YOU DID TO ME.
I'M SORRY, DANNY.
SORRY?
PETE...I HAVE NEVER FELT LIKE THIS IN MY LIFE. I FEEL--I FEEL SO ALIVE.
...SO STRONG.
THE MAN I WAS--HE WAS BARELY A MAN AT ALL. YOU SAVED ME.
I TOLD YOU I WOULD NEVER LET ANYONE HURT YOU EVER AGAIN, DANNY.
NOW THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO. NOT EVER AGAIN.

PETE, WHAT IS THIS PLACE? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
THIS PLACE IS A STAGING GROUND OF SORTS. I'M GATHERING RESOURCES.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? FOR WHAT?

THIS COUNTRY, DANNY--IT'S DYING. IT'S WEAK AND LOST.
LIKE ME? LIKE I WAS?

NO. NOT LIKE YOU. AMERICA DID THIS TO ITSELF. IT'S BEEN DYING A SLOW DEATH FOR DECADES. SO, WHEN I'M READY, I AM GOING TO SAVE IT FROM ITSELF. BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY.
I WANT TO HELP YOU, PETE.

YOU DON'T NEED TO DO ANYTHING TO HELP ME, DANNY. I'M JUST GLAD YOU'RE OKAY. I'M GLAD THE PROCEDURES WORKED.
WE'LL FIX THE SKIN COLOR TOO. DON'T WORRY. WITH TIME YOU'LL BE ABLE TO HAVE A NORMAL LIFE. THAT'S ALL I WANT FOR YOU.

NO. I'VE BEEN *USELESS* MY WHOLE LIFE. I'VE BEEN A BURDEN. I WANT TO *BE SOMETHING.* I DON'T CARE ABOUT MY SKIN COLOR OR A NORMAL LIFE, WHATEVER THAT IS.
I WANT TO HELP YOU WITH THIS WORK. YOU AND ME TOGETHER, PETE. THAT'S THE WAY IT SHOULD BE.

DANNY--
NO. JUST *LOOK AT ME.* I CAN BE *A WEAPON...*

I CAN BE *YOUR WEAPON.*

ARK! ARK!
YEAH, YEAH. I DON'T LIKE IT MUCH EITHER. QUIT WHINING ABOUT IT.
:SNIFF: :SNIFF:
$&%!
ARK!
HSSSSSS!

GET 'EM, BOY!

ARK!

WHAT THE--?

OKAY... THIS IS GETTING WEIRD.

SHADOWMAN?!

I HAVE TO WARN YOU THOUGH, BLOODSHOT, BARON SAMEDI IS NOT TO BE TRUSTED. HIS WORD IS HIS BOND, BUT YOU MAY NOT ***FULLY REALIZE*** WHAT YOU ARE AGREEING TO. HE HAS A WAY OF TWISTING THINGS...

GOOD LUCK, BLOODSHOT. I HOPE I SEE YOU BOTH AGAIN ONE DAY.

OKAY... THIS IS GETTING WEIRD.

FWASH

ARK!

RAYMOND GARRISON. WELCOME.

SAMEDI?!

ONE AND THE SAME. AND YOU CAN SAVE THE EXPLANATIONS AND THE PLEADING. I'VE ALREADY HEARD THEM.

LET'S JUST GET DOWN TO BUSINESS, SHALL WE?

WHAT YOU WANT IS THIS CREATURE'S LIFE. THE ONLY QUESTION THAT REMAINS IS WHAT YOU'LL GIVE ME?

JESSIE?!

LET HER GO!

PLEASE. HOW MANY TIMES DO YOU THINK WE'VE DONE THIS, BLOODSHOT?

I--WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE?

WE HAVE BEEN HAVING THIS CONVERSATION OVER AND OVER FOR A VERY LONG TIME, RAYMOND.

I KNOW IT IS CONFUSING TO YOUR MIND, BUT TIME AND SPACE ARE VERY DIFFERENT HERE. JUST LOOK...

I HAVE ALREADY DONE AS YOU ASKED, I CURED HER OF HER ILLNESS...I USED MY ABILITIES TO MARRY THE THINGS INSIDE HER THAT WERE KILLING HER. SHE'S ALIVE, BUT SOON SHE WILL BE AN OLD WOMAN, THEN JUST DUST.

JESSIE...

I DON'T-- I DON'T UNDERSTAND ANY OF THIS.

OF COURSE YOU DON'T. THIS PLACE IS NOT MEANT FOR MORTAL MINDS. EVEN MINDS WITH AMAZING LITTLE MACHINES IN THEM, LIKE YOURS.

LET ME MAKE IT SIMPLE FOR YOU, RAYMOND...

WE ARE HERE TO MAKE A DEAL. YOU WANTED MORE THAN ANYTHING FOR YOUR LITTLE GIRL TO LIVE A LONG LIFE. TO DIE A NATURAL DEATH AS AN OLD WOMAN ONE DAY...AND THAT IS WHAT IS HAPPENING TO HER.

NOW, I CAN RETURN HER TO THE MORTAL PLANE, WHERE TIME WILL PROCEED IN A WAY YOU KNOW IT. BUT IN EXCHANGE...YOU NEED TO DO SOMETHING FOR ME.

JUST-- WHATEVER IS HAPPENING TO HER, MAKE IT STOP. SEND HER HOME. I WILL DO ***ANYTHING!***

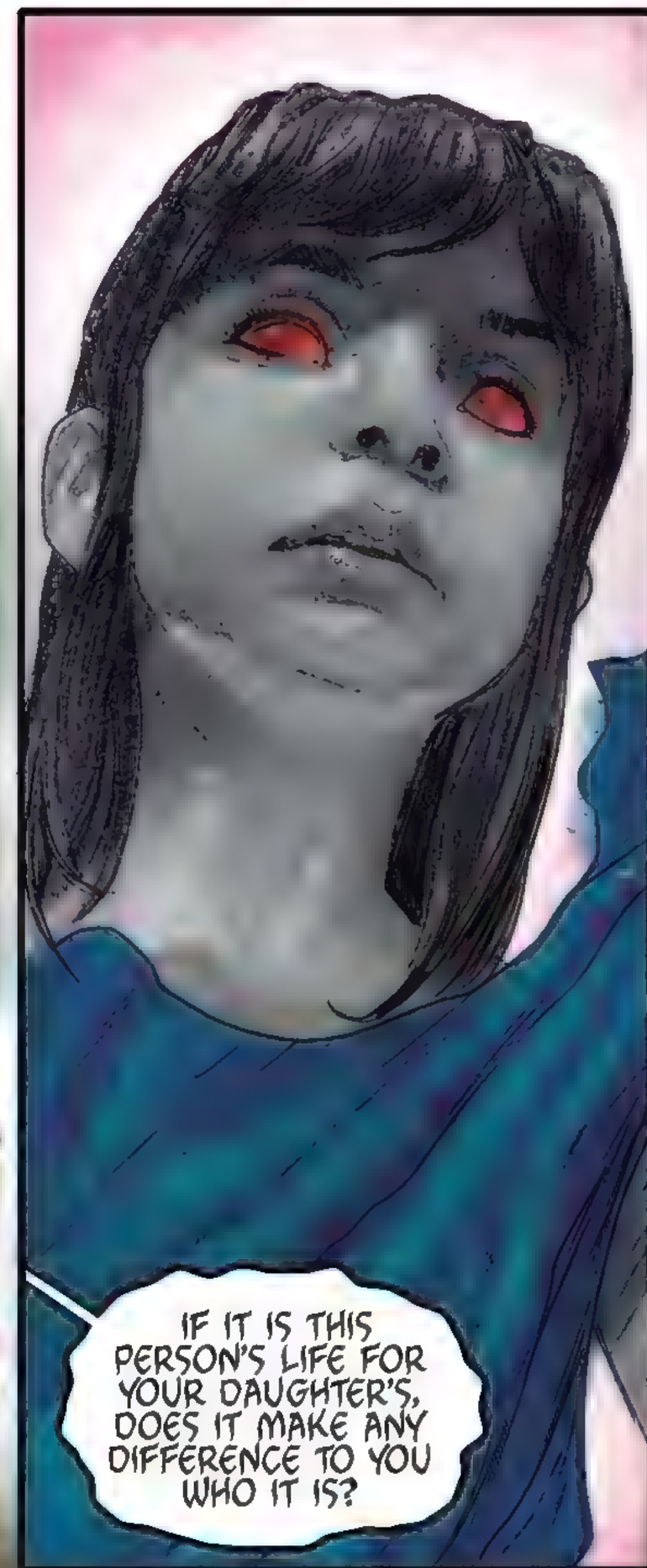
THERE IS SOMEONE, FAR FROM HERE, WHO I HAVE BEEN TRYING TO KILL FOR A VERY LONG TIME.

BUT THIS PERSON HAS TAKEN PRECAUTIONS. THEY HAVE PROTECTED THEMSELVES FROM MY POWER.

AND HERE YOU ARE, A MAN CREATED ONLY TO KILL. AND I THINK FATE HAS SENT YOU HERE TODAY.

WHO? WHO IS IT YOU WANT ME TO KILL?

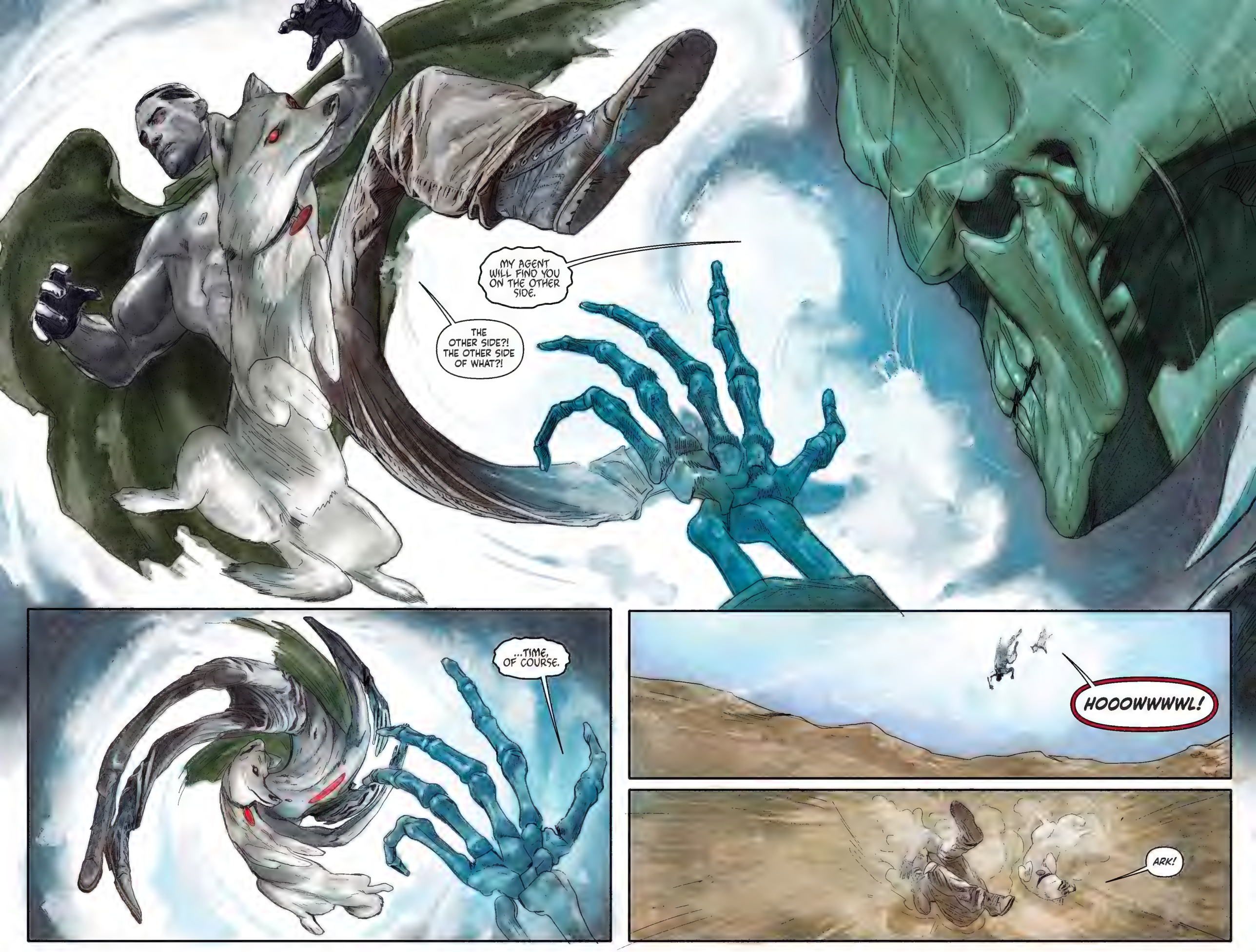
DOES IT MATTER?


IF IT IS THIS PERSON'S LIFE FOR YOUR DAUGHTER'S, DOES IT MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE TO YOU WHO IT IS?

...
NO.

NO, IT DOES NOT. DOES IT?
VERY WELL, A BARGAIN HAS BEEN STRUCK. BUT BE WARNED, RAYMOND. IF YOU DO NOT COMPLETE THIS TASK, YOUR DAUGHTER WILL RETURN HERE.
AND SHE WILL BE MINE FOREVER.

SO LET IT BEGIN...
WAIT! HOW DO I KNOW WHO YOU WANT ME TO KILL?!


MY AGENT WILL FIND YOU ON THE OTHER SIDE.
THE OTHER SIDE?! THE OTHER SIDE OF WHAT?!
...TIME, OF COURSE.
HOOOWWWWL!
ARK!

4002 A.D.

2018 A.D.

SHACK
RAY?!

CAREFUL...

J-- JESSIE?!
MOMMA?

BLOOD SHOT

SALVATION

Jeff Lemire
Ray Fawkes
Renato Guedes
Simon Bowland

VALIANT

9

MORVAL RIDGE.
THE SOMME.
SEPTEMBER 24, 1916.
PEACEFUL AT LAST, EY? LIKE THEY'RE SLEEPING...

...SOMETIMES YOU ENVY THEM.
YOU'RE A MORBID BASTARD TODAY.
ARTILLERY WENT BANG, RIGHT INTO THE TRENCH THIS MORNING. DID YOU HEAR IT?
ONLY, IT HEAVED UP BODIES THAT WERE BURIED HERE, DIDN'T IT? BURIED RIGHT IN THE TRENCH 'CAUSE THE MEN COULDN'T LEAVE...
I'M RIGHT SORRY, DOCTOR FULBRIGHT. MUST BE DISTURBING.
MAKE SURE TO KEEP YOUR HEAD DOWN.
IT'S NOTHING I HAVEN'T SEEN BEFORE. ONWARD.
SEE IF YOU CAN FIND SOMEONE TO BURY THESE BODIES AGAIN.
WILL DO, DOC!
YOU BEEN IN THE TRENCHES LONG, THEN, SIR?
YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO IF THERE'S AN ATTACK? ARTILLERY? GAS?
I'VE BEEN BRIEFED.
DID THEY BRIEF YOU TO TAKE THAT MASK OFF YOUR BAG SO IT'S PROPER READY? DID THEY BRIEF YOU TO TUCK YOUR TROUSERS INTO YOUR BOOTS SO RATS DON'T CRAWL IN WHEN YOU SLEEP?
YOU MIGHT THINK YOU'VE SEEN IT ALL, BUT I PROMISE YOU HAVEN'T.

LIEUTENANT BALFOUR--I'M DOCTOR HENRY FULBRIGHT.

YOUR REPUTATION ***PRECEDES*** YOU, DOCTOR. IT PAINTS A GHOULISH PICTURE. I'M NOT SURPRISED YOU ASKED TO COME SEE THE TRENCHES IN PERSON.

NEVERTHELESS, I'VE BEEN ORDERED TO LET YOU RUN YOUR LITTLE ***EXPERIMENTS*** HERE. I UNDERSTAND YOU HAVE SOME SORT OF NEW ***WEAPON.***

IT'S NOT--

BOOOOOOOM

IT'S NOT A WEAPON, LIEUTENANT.

BUT IT'S GOING TO SAVE THE LIVES OF COUNTLESS MEN IN THIS TRENCH.

IS IT, NOW? SOME NEW ***MACHINE,*** I'LL WAGER.

WELL, OUT WITH IT. LET'S HAVE A LOOK.

HERE WE ARE.

YOU BRING ME OFF THE FRONT LINES TO SHOW ME...*DOGS?*

LIEUTENANT, I BEG YOU TO MAINTAIN AN OPEN MIND.

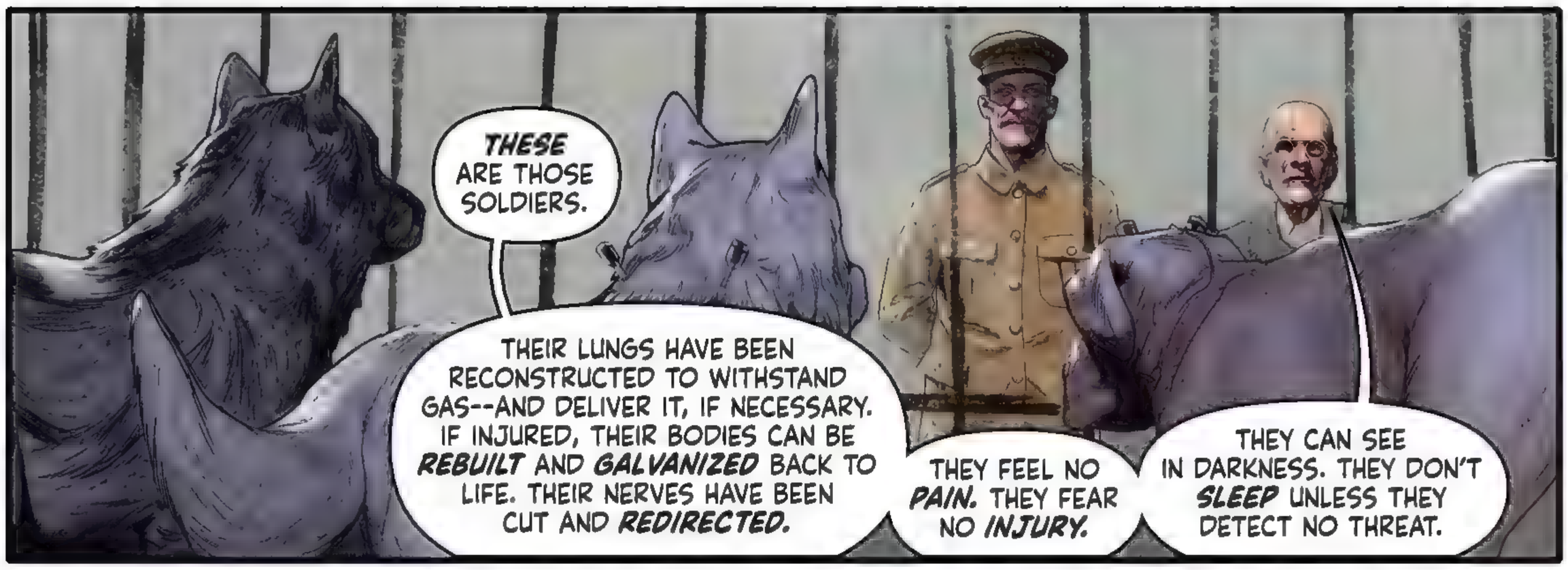
I'VE LOST TWO *BROTHERS* IN THIS WAR. I'VE WATCHED MY FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS LOSE THEIR *SONS* AND *FATHERS*-- OR WELCOME THEM HOME *MAIMED* OR *MAD*...

I'M NO WARRIOR, BUT I DO HAVE THE ABILITY TO HELP WIN THE CONFLICT AND END THE TERRIBLE COST.

THIS, *HERE,* IS THE ANSWER!

WHAT IF I COULD GIVE YOU A SOLDIER WHO NEVER *DIED,* LIEUTENANT?

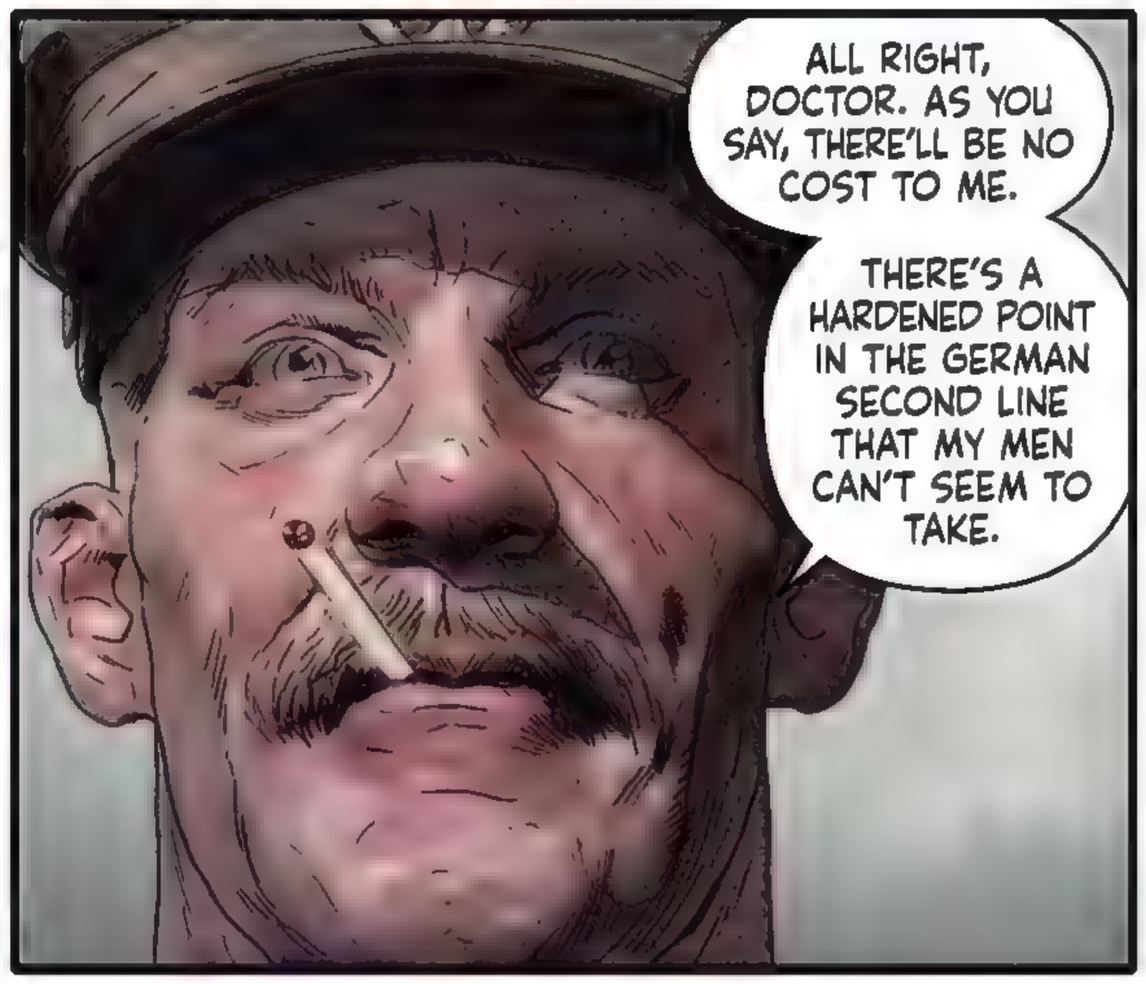
WHAT IF I COULD GIVE YOU ONE WHO CAN BE *SHOT, GASSED, STABBED,* OR *SHELLED* AND RISE AGAIN TO DO YOUR BIDDING?


THESE ARE THOSE SOLDIERS.
THEIR LUNGS HAVE BEEN RECONSTRUCTED TO WITHSTAND GAS--AND DELIVER IT, IF NECESSARY. IF INJURED, THEIR BODIES CAN BE REBUILT AND GALVANIZED BACK TO LIFE. THEIR NERVES HAVE BEEN CUT AND REDIRECTED.
THEY FEEL NO PAIN. THEY FEAR NO INJURY.
THEY CAN SEE IN DARKNESS. THEY DON'T SLEEP UNLESS THEY DETECT NO THREAT.

CHOOSE ANY OBJECTIVE. LET MY DOGS TAKE IT FOR YOUR MEN. AT NO COST WHATSOEVER TO YOU.

NO COST.
MODERN TECHNOLOGY.

IN JUST A FEW SHORT YEARS, THIS MILITARY IS FINALLY COMPLETING ITS TRANSFORMATION FROM NOBLE ENDEAVOUR TO NIGHTMARISH FARCE.
LIEUTENANT--


ALL RIGHT, DOCTOR. AS YOU SAY, THERE'LL BE NO COST TO ME.
THERE'S A HARDENED POINT IN THE GERMAN SECOND LINE THAT MY MEN CAN'T SEEM TO TAKE.

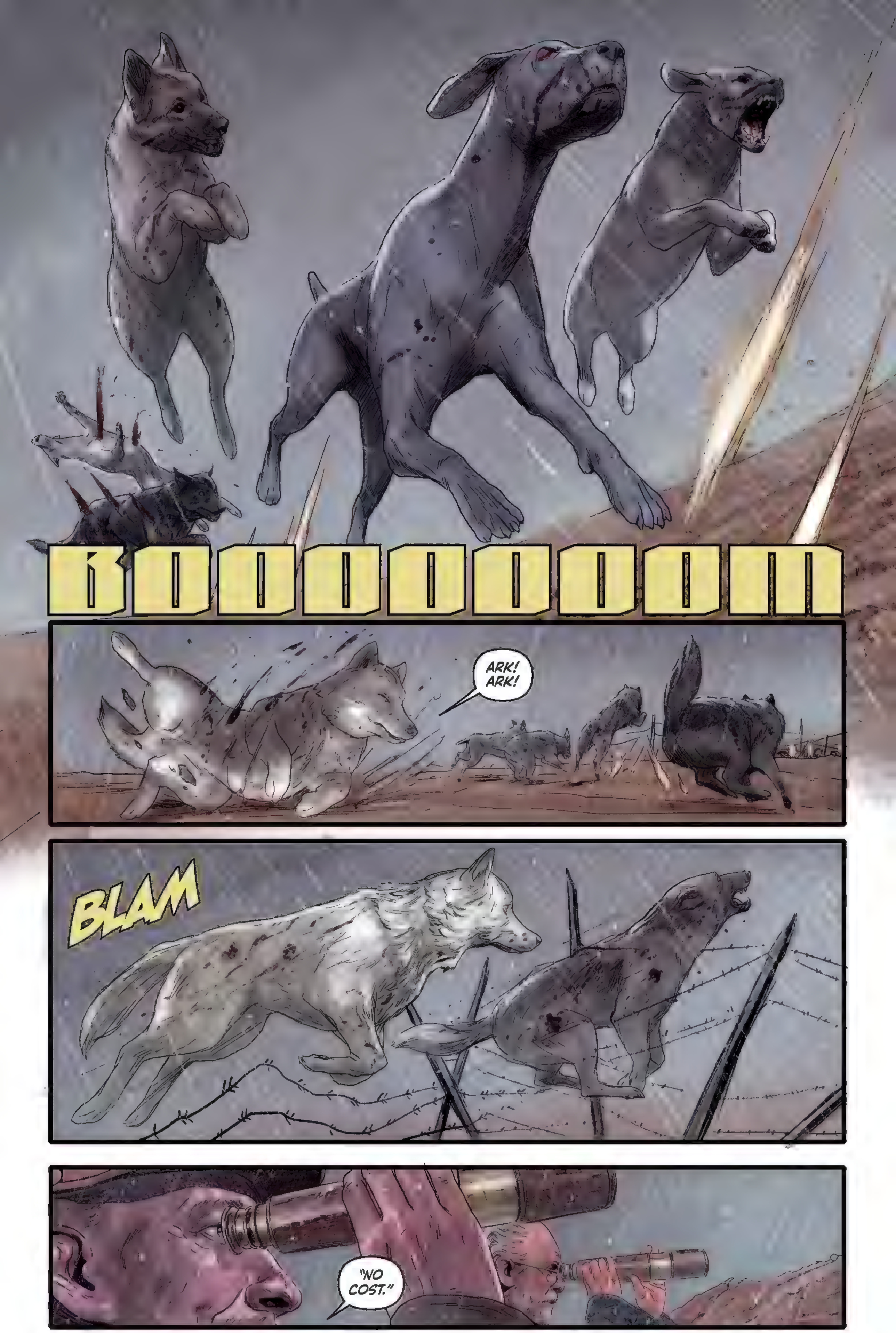
EVERY TIME THEY ADVANCE INTO THE ENEMY'S FORWARD TRENCHES, THE BASTARDS JUST FALL BACK AND MASS A COUNTER-ATTACK. IF THEY HAD NO COVER TO FALL BACK TO, WE COULD HOLD OUR GAINS.
YOU WANT TO SAVE MY BOYS?
THEY GO OVER THE TOP AT DAWN.

BLOODY RAIN.
BLOODY WAR.
FLARE'S UP. WATCH YOURSELF, SNIPERS'LL BE HAVIN' A GANDER.
BANG
I S'POSE YOU'RE GOING TO TELL ME THEM DOGS CAN READ.
WHAT ELSE, EY? WHAT ELSE CAN THEY DO?
BANG

BOOOOOOOOOOM
JUST ABOUT DAWN.
THERE'S THE CREEPING ARTILLERY. THE DOGS WILL GO OUT BEHIND IT, AND YOU ALL WILL FOLLOW THE DOGS.
YOU'RE STAYING HERE...EY, DOC? AND THEN WHAT? AND THEN A TRIP HOME? TO WRITE YOUR REPORTS?
I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE. I'M GOING TO PROVE THESE DOGS' WORTH. AS LONG AS IT TAKES.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME, SOLDIER? I NEVER ASKED.
ASK ME AFTER THE BATTLE, DOC. IF WE'RE BOTH STILL HERE, I MEAN. NO POINT MAKING FRIENDS WITH SOMEONE WHO MIGHT BE DEAD IN AN HOUR.
FAIR ENOUGH.
HUP! ACQUIRE AND ELIMINATE!
FWEEEE
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO THEM, EY? POOR SONS OF BITCHES.
Heh. LITERALLY SONS OF BITCHES, I S'POSE...

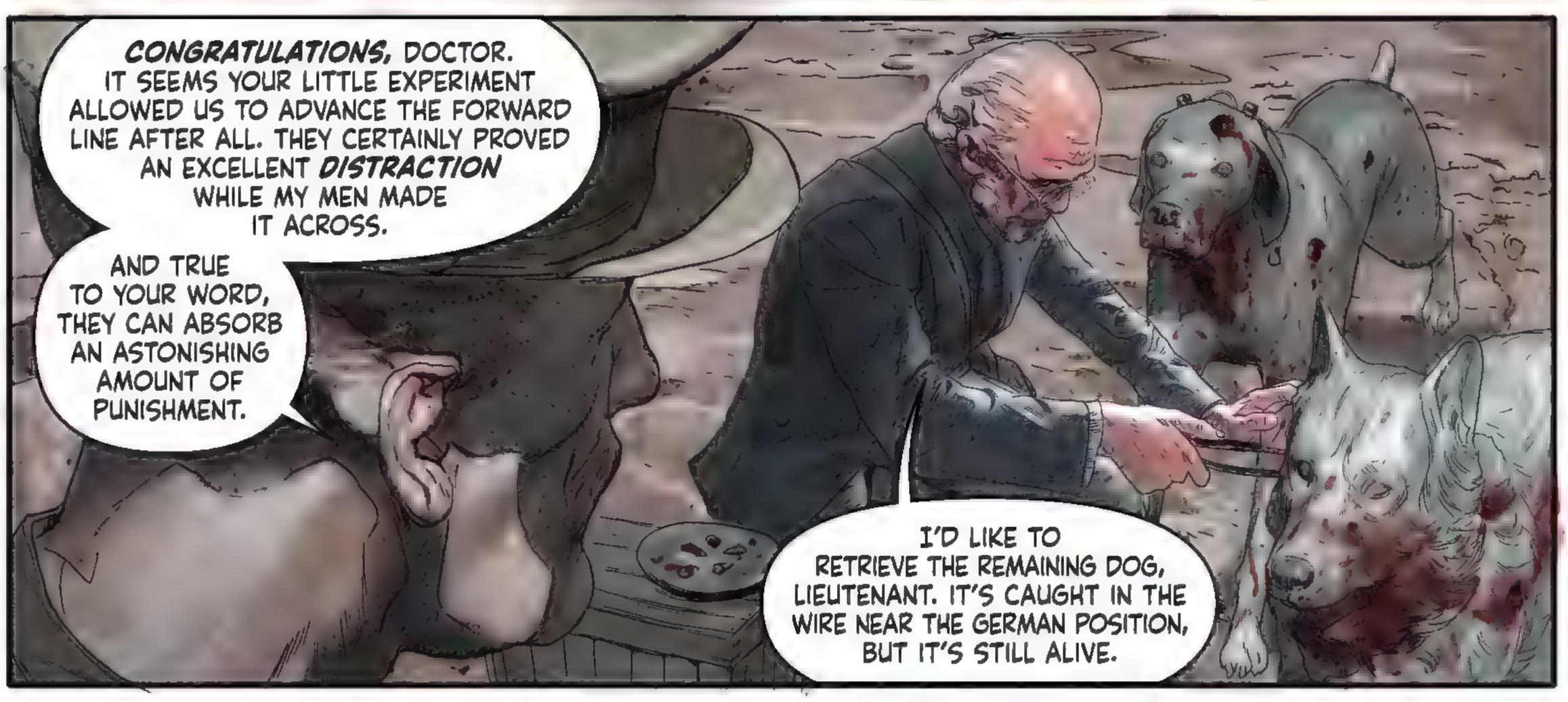
GRRRROWF!
ARK ARK
ARF ARF ARF
BLAM

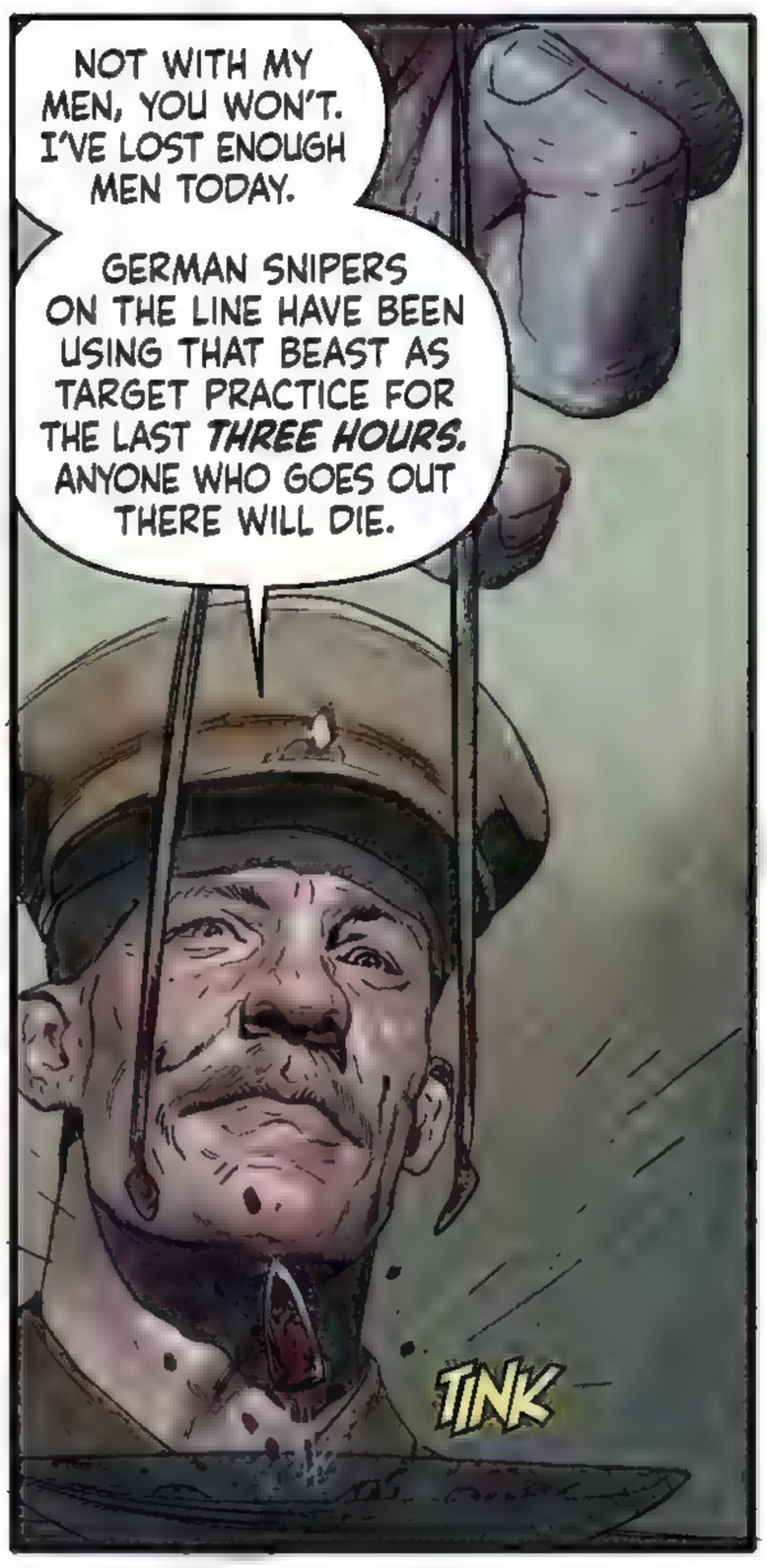
AIIIIIII
<FACE FRONT!>
<HERE COME THE BRITISH!>
M BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLA


BOOOOOOOOM
ARK! ARK!
BLAM
"NO COST."

CHAK CHAK CHAK
CHAK CHAK CHAK
GRRRR
AIEEEE!

<RETREAT! RETREAT!>
THERE'S NO COVERING FIRE! THE MACHINE GUN IS DOWN!
FINISH THEM OFF!
BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM
RRRRARK

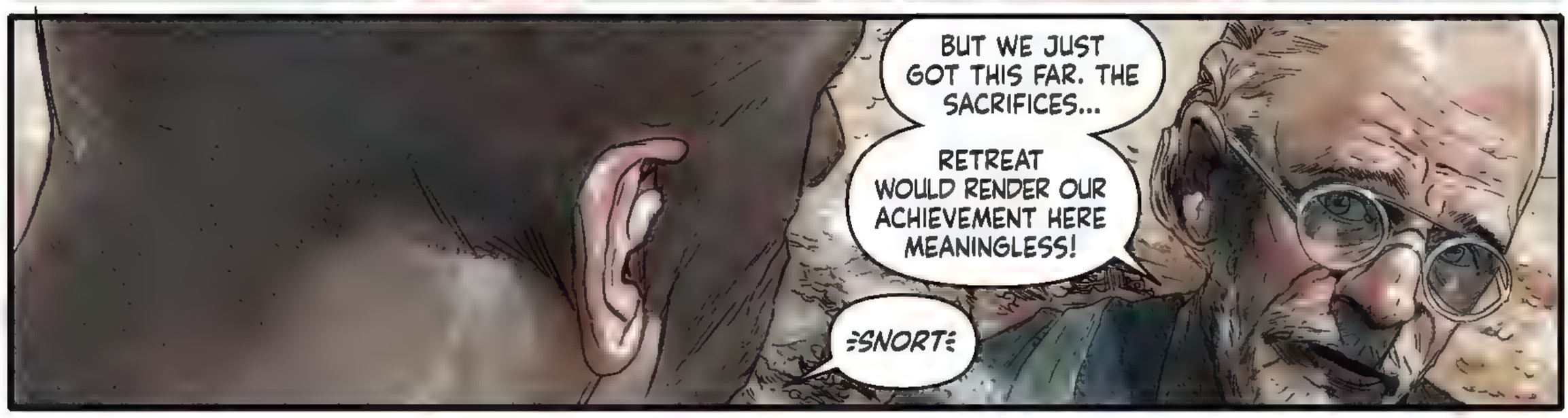

CONGRATULATIONS, DOCTOR. IT SEEMS YOUR LITTLE EXPERIMENT ALLOWED US TO ADVANCE THE FORWARD LINE AFTER ALL. THEY CERTAINLY PROVED AN EXCELLENT DISTRACTION WHILE MY MEN MADE IT ACROSS.
AND TRUE TO YOUR WORD, THEY CAN ABSORB AN ASTONISHING AMOUNT OF PUNISHMENT.
I'D LIKE TO RETRIEVE THE REMAINING DOG, LIEUTENANT. IT'S CAUGHT IN THE WIRE NEAR THE GERMAN POSITION, BUT IT'S STILL ALIVE.

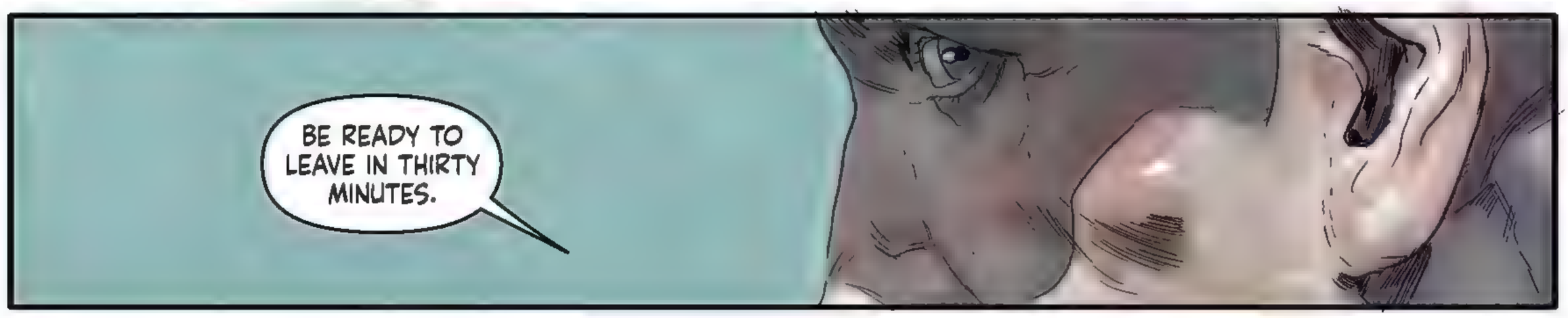

NOT WITH MY MEN, YOU WON'T. I'VE LOST ENOUGH MEN TODAY.
GERMAN SNIPERS ON THE LINE HAVE BEEN USING THAT BEAST AS TARGET PRACTICE FOR THE LAST THREE HOURS. ANYONE WHO GOES OUT THERE WILL DIE.
TINK

I WASN'T ASKING FOR YOUR HELP. I WAS JUST LETTING YOU KNOW.
I'LL SHOCK THESE DOGS BACK UP AND SEND THEM. THAT'S THEIR BROTHER OUT THERE. THEY'LL WANT TO RESCUE HIM.

YOU DO WHAT YOU LIKE. I SUPPOSE YOU'RE PROVING YOUR POINT.
NO DOUBT THEY'LL CONSIDER THESE ONES A SUCCESS. MORE SO IF YOU CAN BRING BACK THREE OUT OF FIVE. ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE MORE?

I INTEND TO, IF I CAN GET THE FUNDING.





WE'RE PULLING BACK, BOYS.
WE'LL BE MOVING UP THE LINE WHILE THE BOSCH ARE FOCUSED ON THIS SPOT.
RIGHT, SIR.
GET READY, ON THE DOUBLE.
RIGHT, SIR.
HERE, BOYS. ASSAULT AND RETRIEVE.
GO GET YOUR BROTHER.

BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG BANG
SKLUTCH
BANG
<GAS! GAS!>
GRRRROWF

ARF ARF
BLAM
BLAM
GAS!
THEY'RE RETALIATING!
KRUMPF

HHAAAHH
ARGH!
THUK
THUK
BOOM
GRRRRRRR
ARK ARK ARK
THERE YOU HAVE IT.

SO MUCH FOR NOBLE ASPIRATIONS. SO TO SPEAK.
GET THESE BEASTS BACK TO WHOEVER DELIVERED THEM. PERHAPS SOMEONE HAS THE GOOD DOCTOR'S NOTES AND WILL WANT TO CARRY ON WITH HIS WORK.
YES, SIR.
LOOKS LIKE THAT ONE'S ABOUT DONE FOR, SIR. AND THERE'S ANOTHER IN THE TRENCH.
FINE.
DEAD OR ALIVE, I WANT THEM OUT OF MY SIGHT.
CHRIST--
ARK
BLEEDING MONSTERS--
COME HERE, YOU. HE'S ALREADY DEAD. CAN'T YOU SEE THAT?
YOU'RE THE LAST ONE, AREN'T YOU? THEY'LL BE WANTING YOU BACK.
POOR BOY. LEAVE 'IM, BOY...
...LEAVE 'IM IN PEACE. LET 'IM REST.
LET 'IM SLEEP.
ARK ARK

NEXT: THE BOOK OF REVELATIONS

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Art by JIM MAHFOOD

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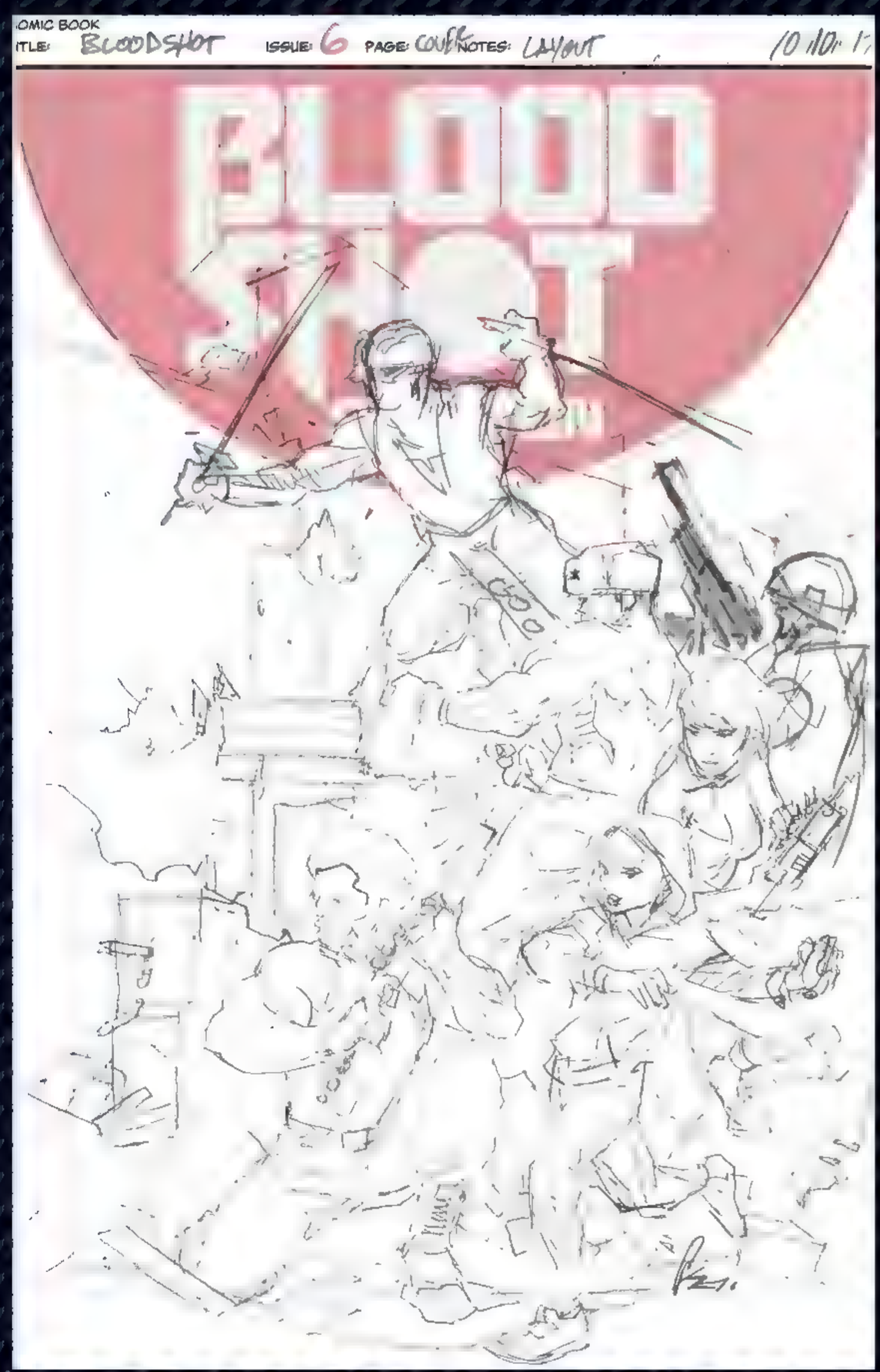

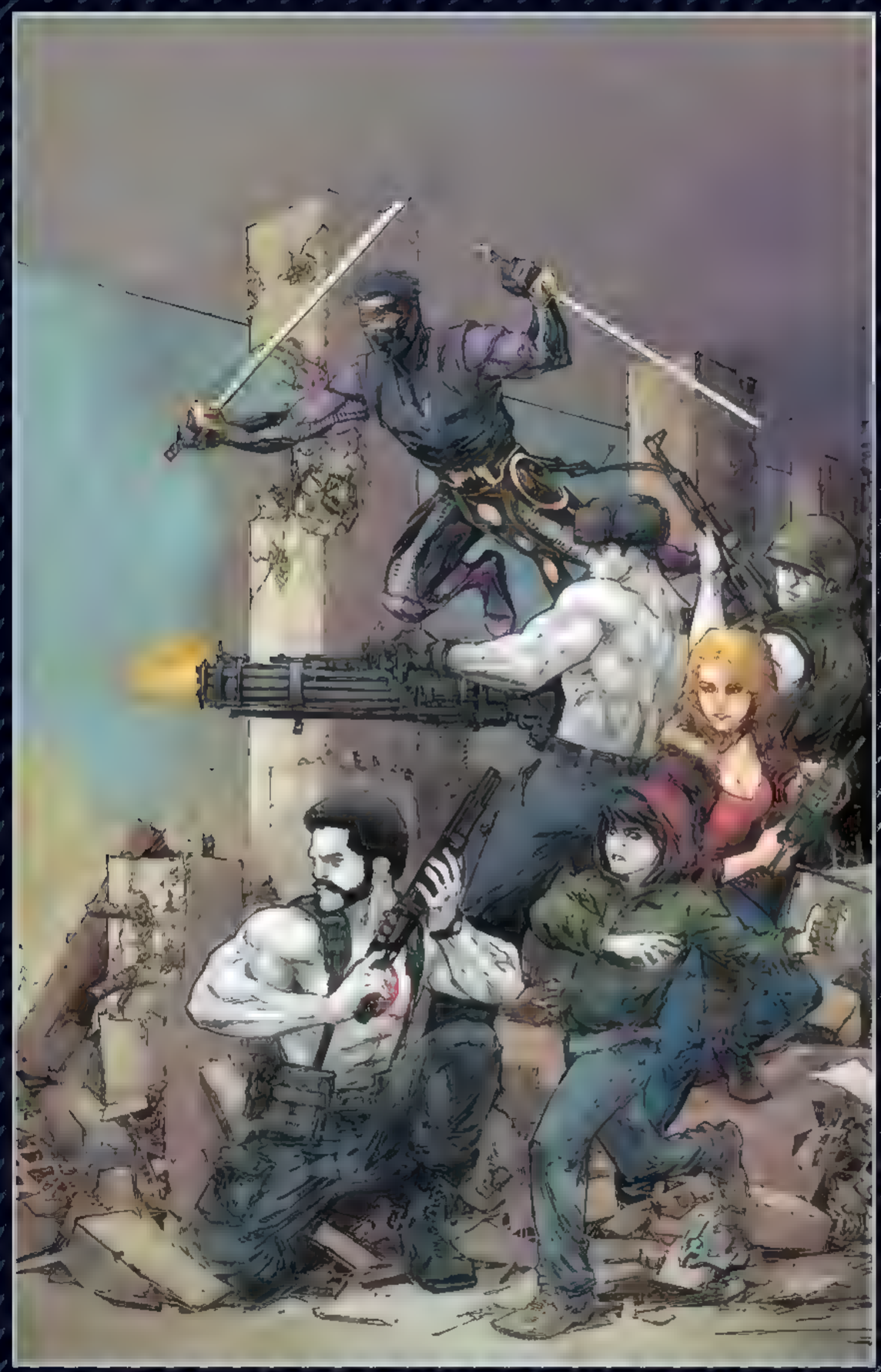

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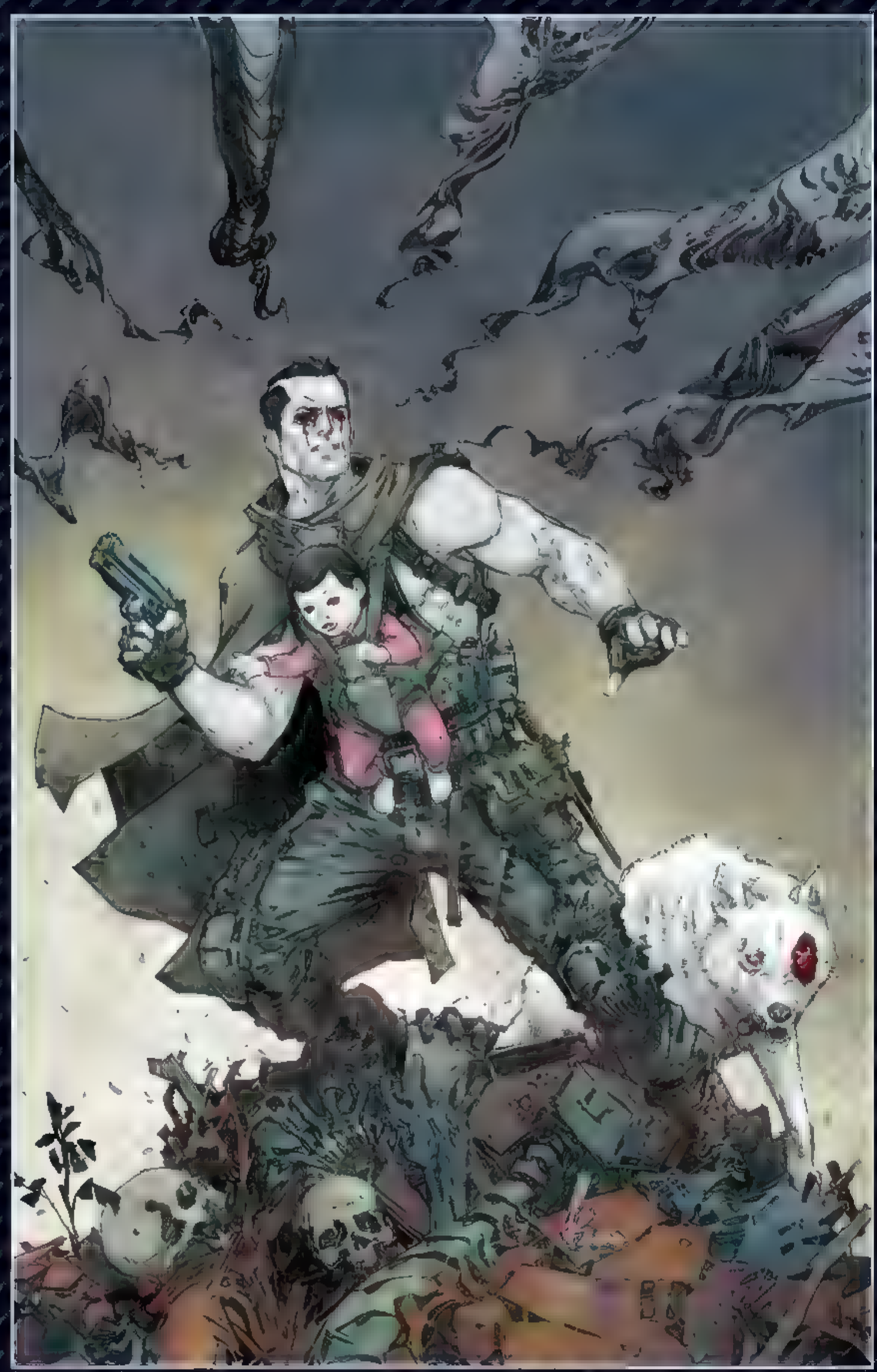

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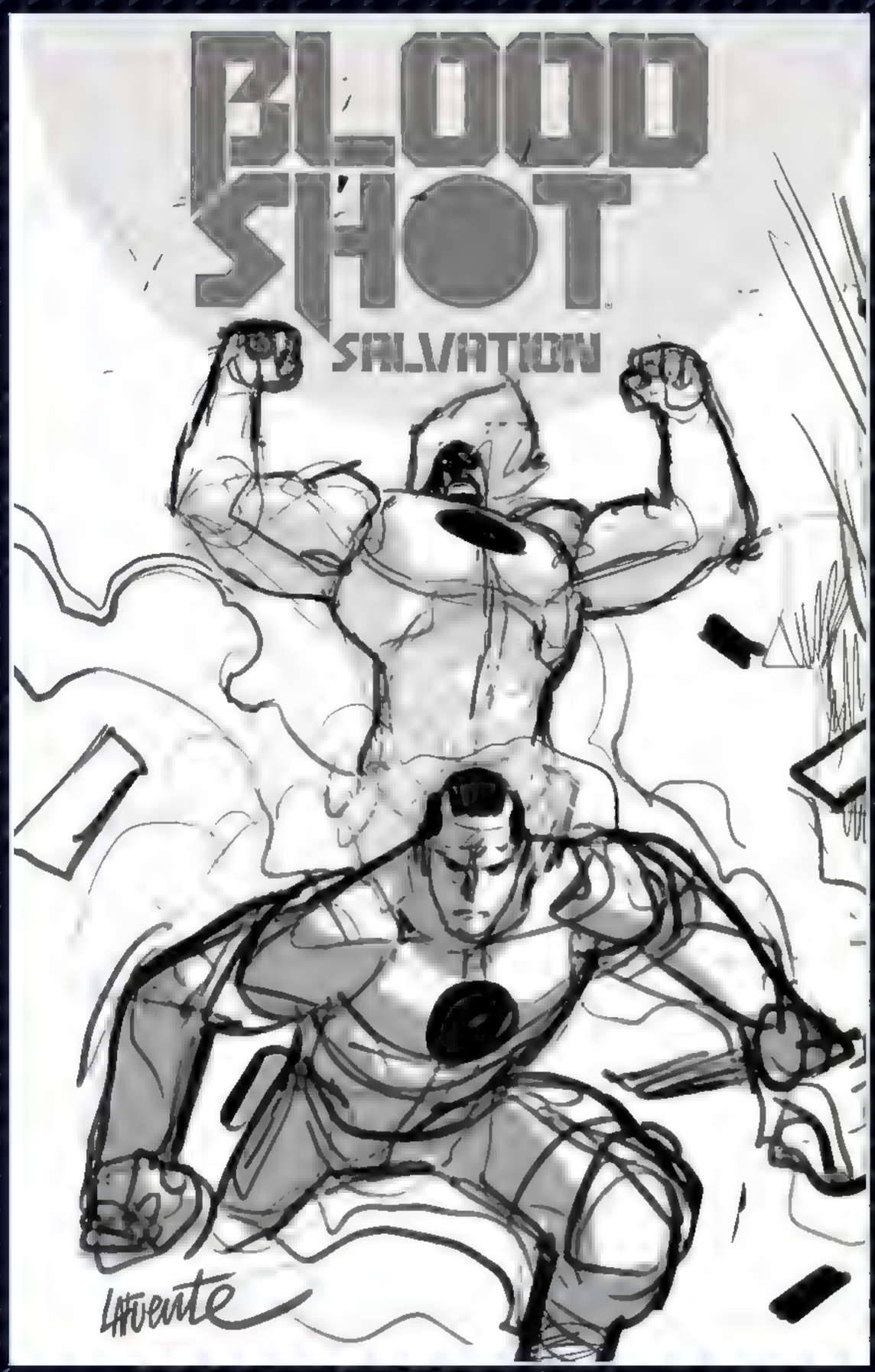

LAFuente
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BLOODSHOT ICON VARIANT COVER
Art by BOB LAYTON with GABE ELTAEB

BLOODSHOT SALVATION #8 COVER B
Art by RENATO GUEDES

BLOODSHOT SALVATION #8 COVER C
Art by GERARDO ZAFFINO

BLOODSHOT SALVATION #8
BLOODSHOT ICON VARIANT COVER
Art by TREVOR HAIRSINE with ANDREW DALHOUSE

BLOODSHOT SALVATION #9 COVER C
Art by GIUSEPPE CAMUNCOLI with BRIAN REBER

BLOODSHOT SALVATION #9
BLOODSHOT ICON VARIANT COVER
Art by SHANE DAVIS with ANDREW DALHOUSE

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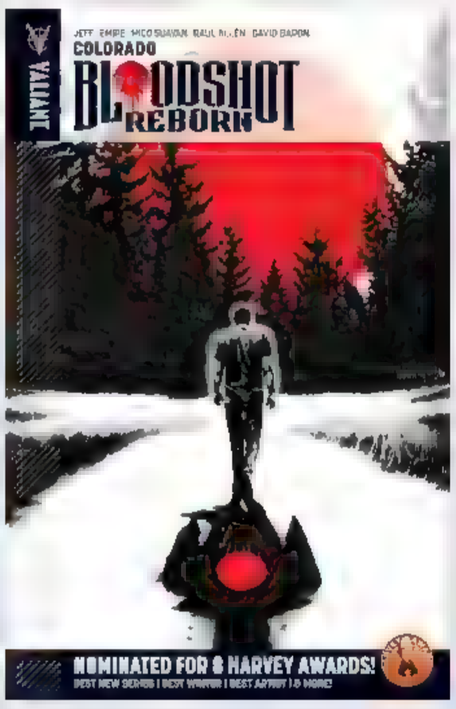

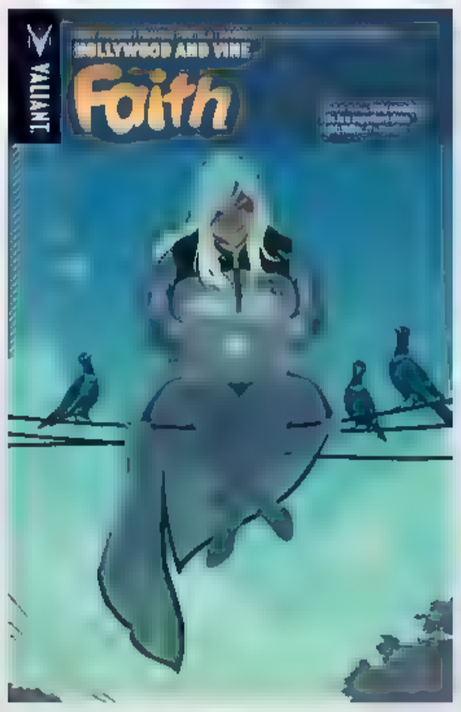

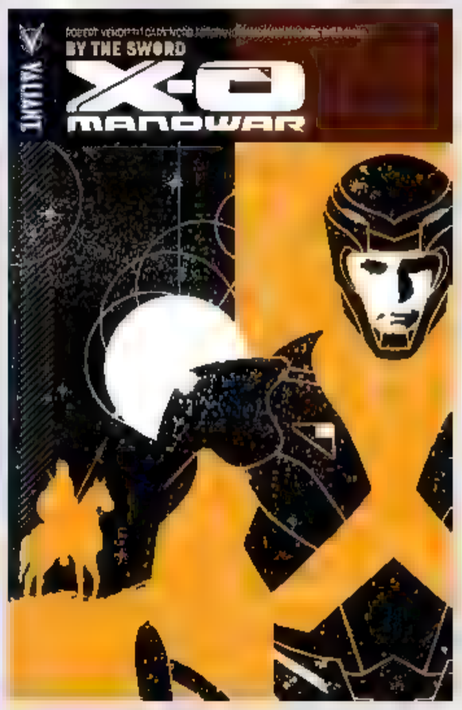

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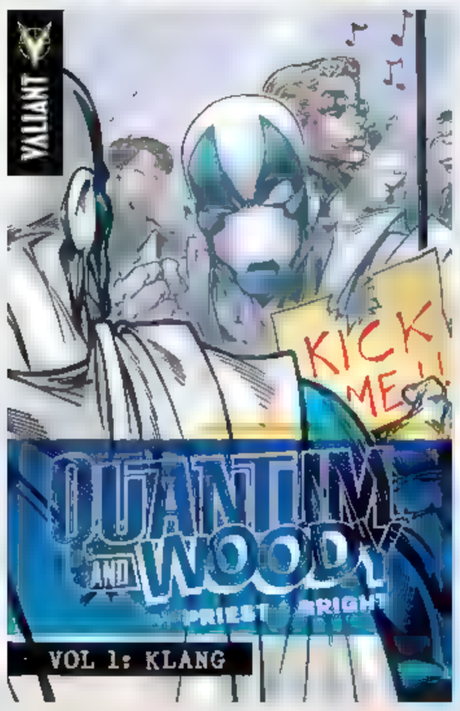

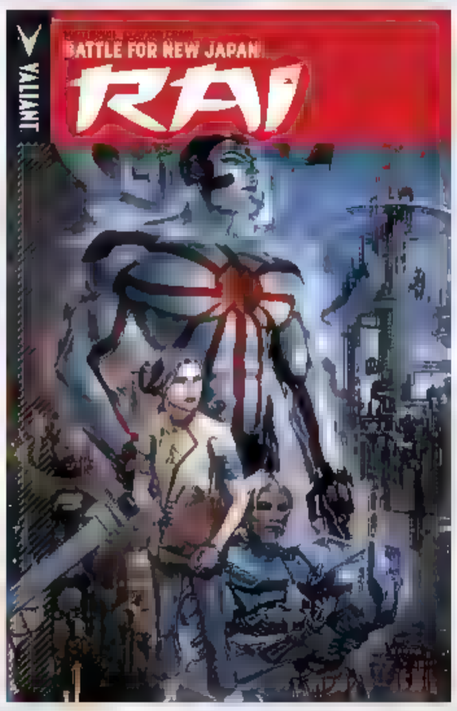

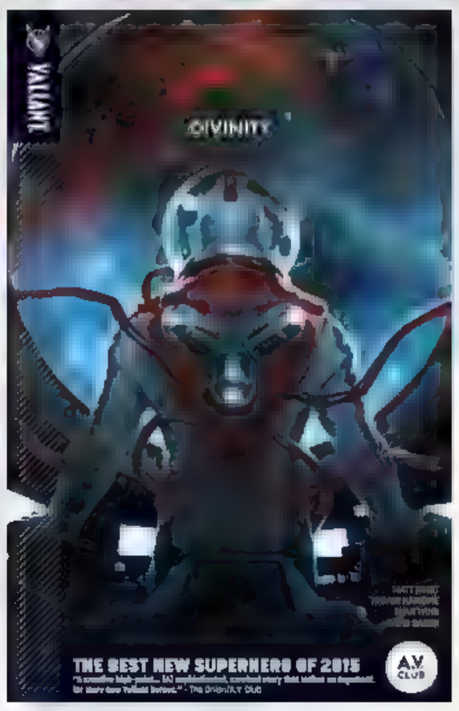

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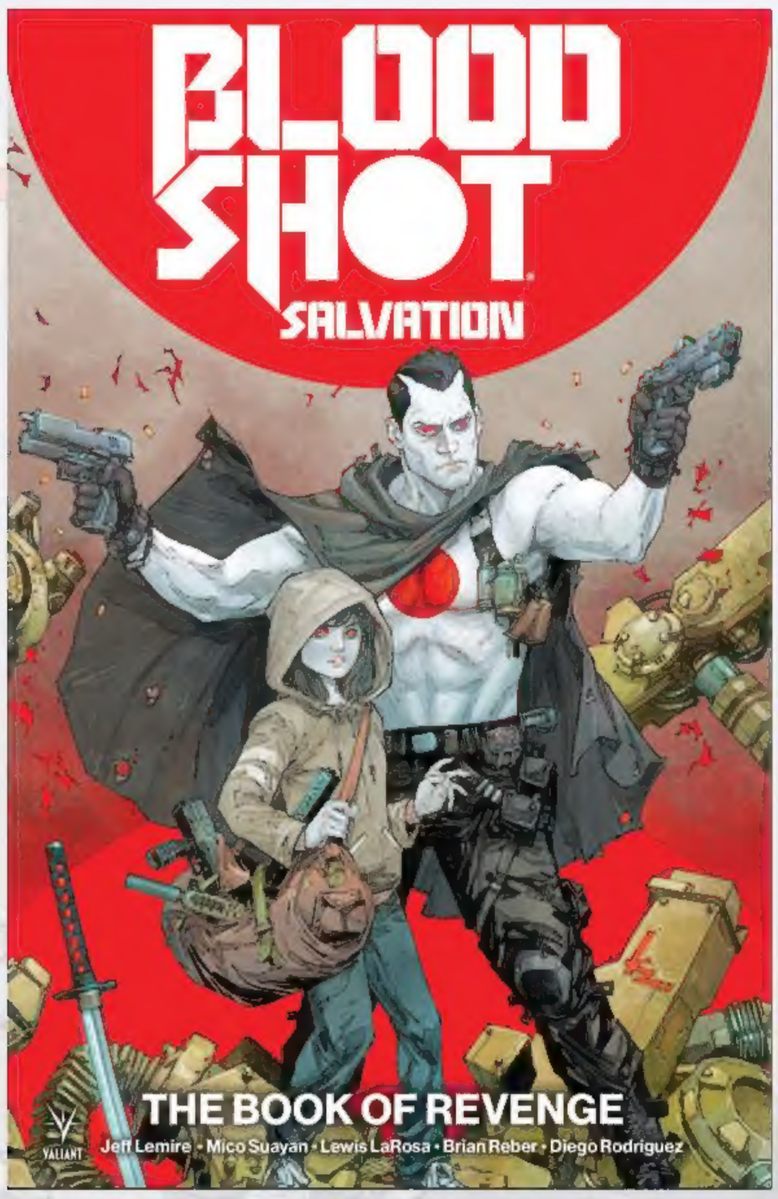

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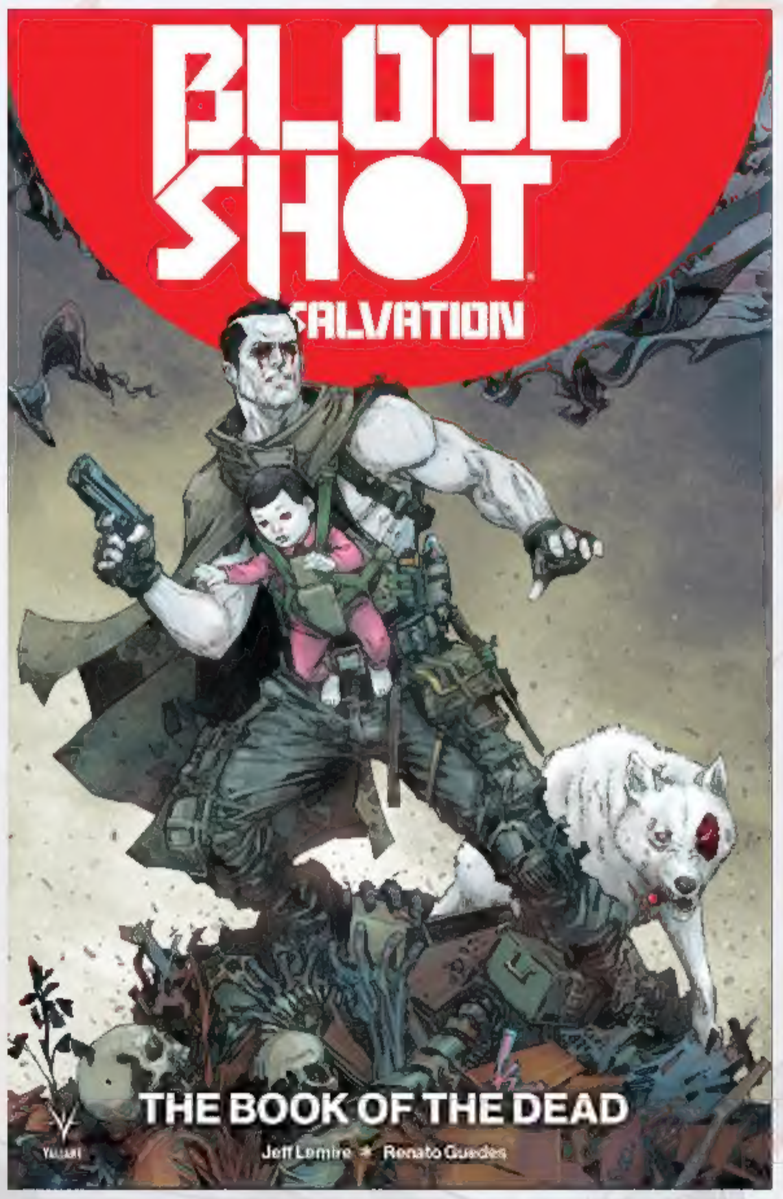

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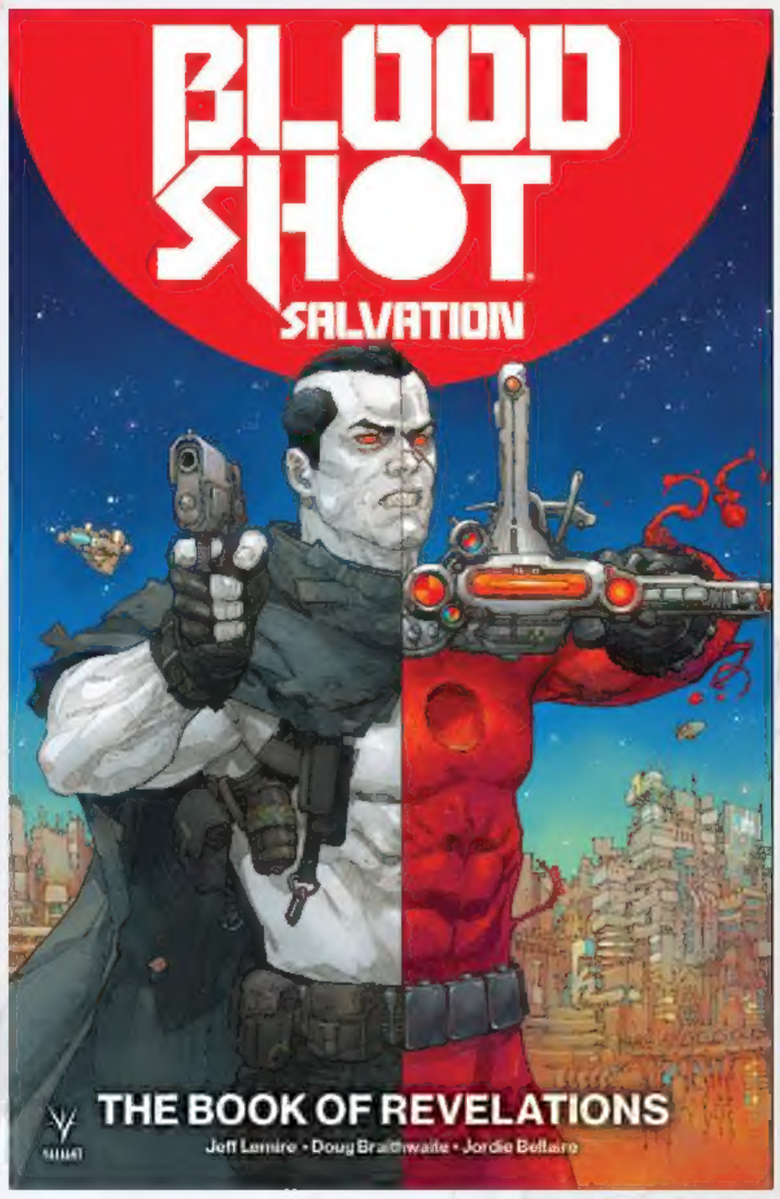

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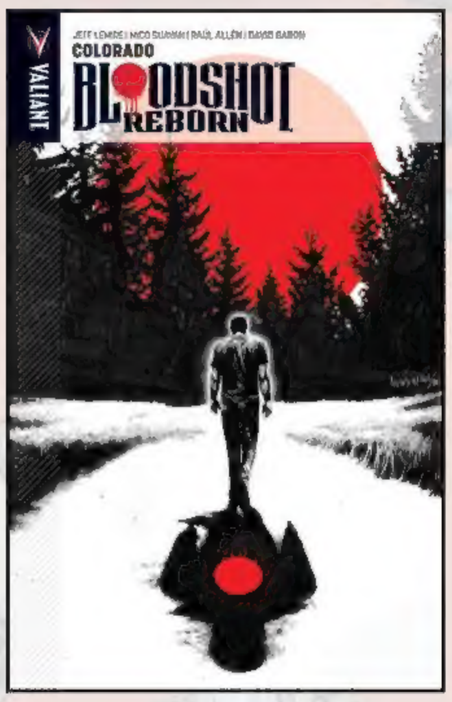

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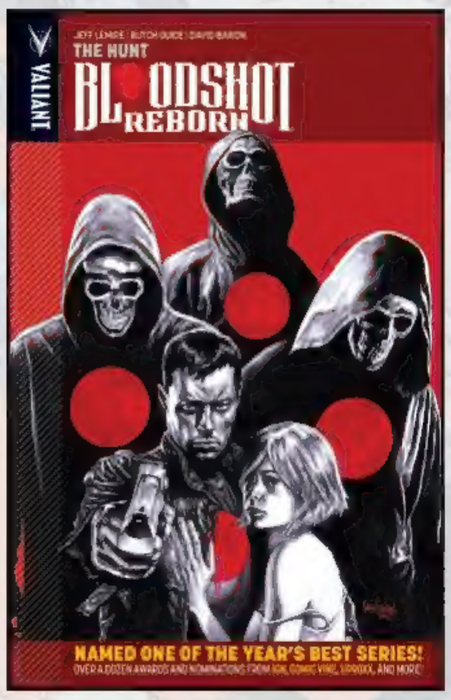

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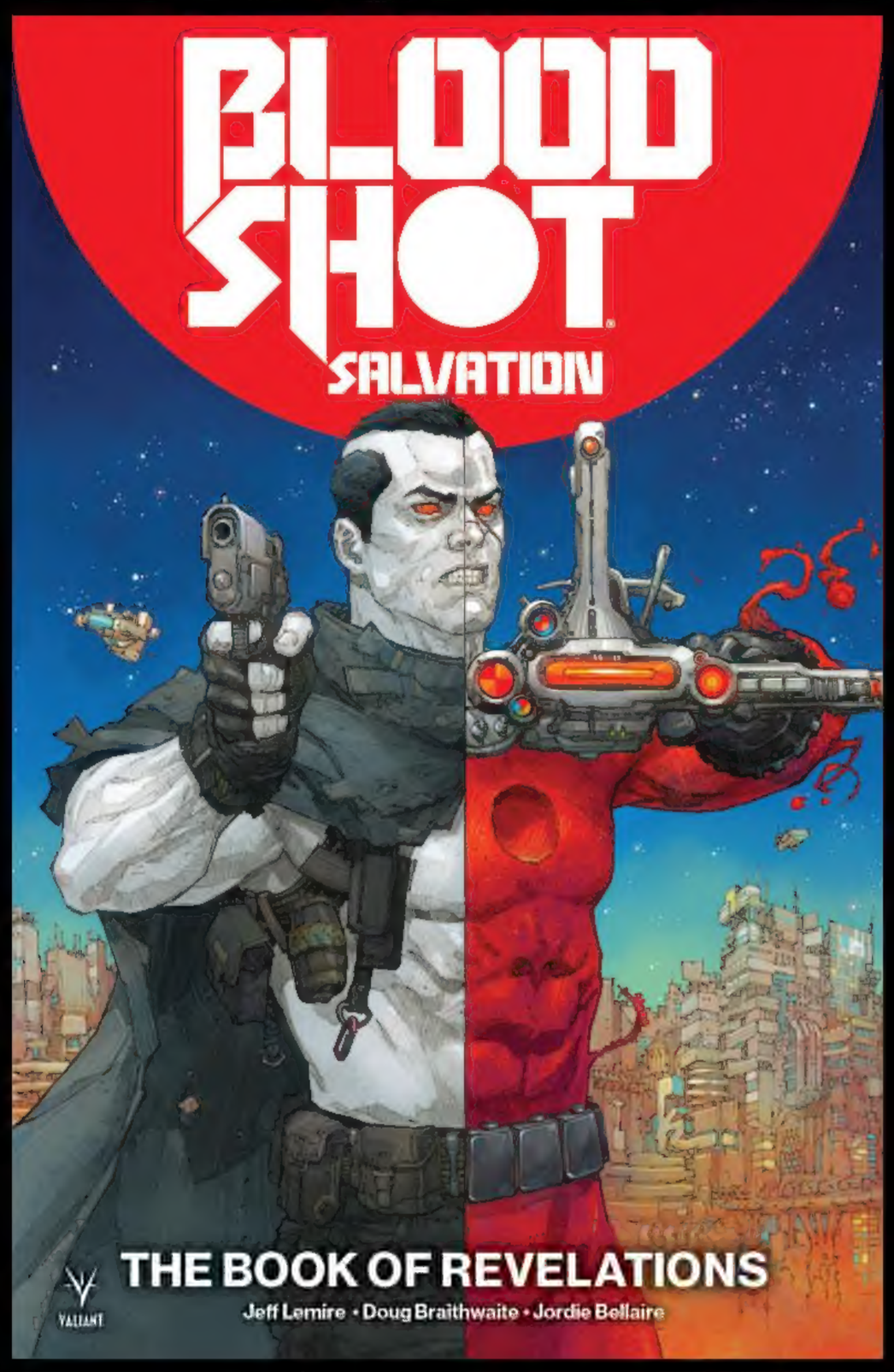

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Eisner Award-nominated writers Jeff Lemire (*The Terrifics*, *Black Hammer*) and Ray Fawkes (*Batman: Eternal*), and explosive artist Renato Guedes (*Wolverine*) take Bloodshot on a heart-stopping journey to the Deadside's darkest depths to confront death itself in the series named one of the year's best by Entertainment Weekly!

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